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THE TIMES

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Major refuses to rule out use of troops

Britain and US in split over Kurds' future

By PETER STOTHARD IN WASHINGTON AND PHILIP WEBSTER IN LONDON

CLEAR differences of emphasis between Britain and the United States over the future of the Kurds emerged yesterday as John Major refused to rule out the use of troops to help the refugees to return safely to their homes.

The day after President Bush said that not a single American soldier would become embroiled in the Iraqi civil war, the prime minister deliberately left open the prospect that force might have to be used.

He said in a television interview: "I am neither ruling it in nor ruling it out. Nobody knows what the situation may be in the future." The last British combat troops in the Gulf flew back to their bases in Germany at the weekend.

Neil Kinnock suggested yesterday that there should be a United Nations investigation to decide if genocide was taking place in Iraq. The Labour leader told the Board of Deputies of British Jews in London that this was necessary before outside forces could intervene. "I believe that there is at least a prima facie case for the United Nations to investigate and pursue its own genocide convention and to consider the justification of intervention to prevent the destruction of a people. It must be the case that the offence of genocide is so great that it supersedes the normal and necessary constraints of sovereignty."

The Bush administration, emboldened by the low level of opposition to its policy of abandoning the refugees, has become increasingly vocal in its commitment to bring its forces home as fast as possible. Richard Cheney, the US defence secretary, said yesterday that he could envisage no circumstances in which he would leave American ground forces in the areas where they are supporting thousands of refugees.

He was continuing the theme of "non-interference" that Mr Bush clearly enunciated to students at Maxwell Base college in Alabama on Saturday. The president said he did not want "one single soldier or airman shoved into a civil war in Iraq" that had been "going on for ages".

The differences in tone have clearly resulted from Mr Bush's desire to stop talking about the use of force for domestic political reasons, and Mr Major's wish, possibly for the same reason, to leave the possibility open. Neither London nor Washington has disclosed how it would react to any confirmation that President Saddam Hussein had resumed his attacks on refugees. Diplomatic sources in Washington suggest that the difference in tone might become one of substance if that occurred.

Mr Major made plain that in the first instance guarantees would be sought from the Iraqi government that the Kurds could return to their homes. He insisted that he was not retreating in any way from his two-stage plan for the refugees, unveiled last Monday to the European Council in Luxembourg – that they should first be given humanitarian relief and then encouraged to go home.

Interviewed on the London Weekend Television *Walden* programme, Mr Major said: "The plan I announced on Monday achieved total and complete support within the European Community ... There is considerable support for that plan. I said at the time it would be controversial, and it was difficult, but I saw no other way to actually solve this problem in the short and medium term."

Asked if proper protection of the Kurds in their homes would need troops on the ground, Mr Major said: "It depends on what agreements are reached with Iraq and how matters develop over the next few months. At no stage did I suggest this was a particularly short-term affair. At some stage we are going to have to see what guarantees we can get to make sure they can go back to their homes."

Mr Cheney said that American troops had begun withdrawing from their forward positions in southern Iraq and they would soon all be inside the ceasefire zone. He said refugees would be pulled back with the troops, if they wished to accompany them.

He promised that the Kurdish refugees in the north would be supported "over the next several days" by American airlifts of food and supplies, but he hoped that international bodies would quickly take over the dominant role from the United States.

Mr Major said: "That is not a matter the United Kingdom can do unilaterally. That is something we have to discuss with the international community, possibly through the United Nations. We need to have the right sort of guarantees and assurances from Iraq." Any assurances had to be verifiable and acceptable to the UN.

"I think it is right to set out these objectives," he said. "They may fail. I may end up with egg all over my face. I would rather end up with egg all over my face having tried and failed than not having tried to find a solution."

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Clinging to life: a Kurdish woman using a syringe to feed her baby at a refugee camp at Isikveren along the Turkish border with Iraq. The child is suffering from dehydration

Tanker and its oil time bomb sinks off Italy

From PAUL BOMPARD IN ROME

AFTER burning for three days in front of the Italian port of Genoa and threatening the worst oil spill yet faced in the Mediterranean, the tanker Haven sank yesterday morning in 200ft of water. As it slipped below the surface, belching smoke, steam and heavy black oil fumes, the vessel carried an environmental time bomb of more than 100,000 tonnes of crude oil, which the authorities are desperately hoping can be recovered safely.

On Saturday night, as oil slicks were already drifting towards the Riviera's holiday beaches of western Liguria, Giulio Andreotti, the Italian prime minister, declared a state of emergency, overshadowing political infighting over the distribution of ministries that could sink Italy's 50th post-war government hours after it was formed.

Before it sank the Haven was towed to relatively shallow waters with a sandy bottom, in the hope that it would not break up and spill its cargo, which would be the second worst oil spill in Europe after that of the Amoco Cadiz off the French coast in 1978. About 40,000 tonnes are estimated to have burnt off before the sinking. In the confined waters of the Mediterranean, such a spill would cause an environmental catastrophe.

The Haven, a Cypriot-registered ship with Greek officers, was watched after it sank from helicopters and by midget submarines with television cameras. Late yesterday, there was no sign that its tanks had broken open, and the authorities hoped to be able to pump out oil with relatively little spillage.

Giorgio Ruffolo, the civil defence minister, said on Saturday that an international taskforce, including experts of the British company P & I, was waiting to try to contain the damage. But experts of the Italian branch of Greenpeace were pessimistic about the chances of a complete clean-up, and issued a warning that "treatment with high pressure boiling water, incorrect use of floating barriers, or an incautious use of solvents could be damaging in themselves".

Should the submerged tanks split open the entire Riviera, from the French frontier to northern Tuscany and including resorts like San Remo, Alassio, Portofino and Viareggio, would be affected. The damage to sea life would be devastating and long-lasting. Only small oil patches have landed on beaches west of Genoa, and those most directly threatened are between the port and Imperia.

● **Damage control:** Anti-pollution experts assessing how to contain the environmental threat of the Haven's slick favour oil collection rather than dispersal, particularly in the Mediterranean, considered to be dirty enough. Hydraulic pumps, attached to booms, suck up the spill and transfer it through pipes to on-shore tanks. The technique is being used to tackle the Gulf slick (Bill Frost writes). The danger involved in capping the vessel's tanks can only be assessed after divers have examined the hulk.



Spurs and Forest for Wembley

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

THE FA Cup Final on May 18 will be between Tottenham Hotspur and Nottingham Forest. A month after an abdominal operation, Paul Gascoigne set Spurs on the way to their 3-1 victory over Arsenal in the first semi-final to be staged at Wembley. He fired in a spectacular free kick from 35 yards. Gary Lineker added the other two goals – which ended Arsenal's hopes of the cup and league double – either side of Arsenal's reply from Alan Smith.

Both fullbacks scored for Forest, who overwhelmed West Ham United 4-0 in the second half at Villa Park after the London club had their defender Tony Gale sent off controversially for a professional foul before the interval.

In the inaugural world women's rugby cup in Cardiff, England were beaten 19-6 by the United States. England took the lead with a converted penalty try but the Americans hit back with a burst of three tries.

Full details, pages 32, 34

Prime minister turns on critics

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE prime minister yesterday strongly defended the way he runs his government and dismissed as "juvenile name-calling" the claims of critics who say he is indecisive.

In a clear attempt to reassert his authority after a series of internal attacks on his leadership and an uncomfortable launch for the Conservatives' local elections campaign, John Major listed key decisions he had taken, including joining the European exchange rate mechanism and abolishing the community charge, to refute charges he is a ditherer.

Mr Major, in a 50-minute television interview dominated by comparisons between his style and that of his predecessor, hit back at his latest critic, Sir Alan Walters, Mrs Thatcher's former economic adviser. Sir Alan questions in a *Panorama* interview tomorrow whether there is a set of principles or ideas behind Mr Major.



Walters: accused of being wrong on effects of ERM

Interviewed by Brian Walden, the prime minister pointed out that Sir Alan had been wrong in suggesting that joining the European exchange rate mechanism would mean that Britain would have to devalue and be unable to cut interest rates.

Defending his style of leadership, Mr Major said: "Whenever you are considering a matter of importance you listen to the points that are being made. You consider those points. You examine them. You consider how they will affect the people whose lives will be affected about it and then you decide. That is always the way I have conducted affairs, before I became prime minister. That is how I will continue to conduct affairs."

As the Commons returns today, the Conservatives will continue efforts to regain the initiative in the local elections campaign. Neil Kinnock yesterday dismissed recent apparent improvements in the economy as the usual pre-election juggling and "spasm of relaxation".

The prospect of a June election appears to have receded during the Easter recess. The latest aggregate analysis of Mori polls from January to March shows the Conservatives have moved into a 1 percentage point lead over Labour. Conservative MPs appear to be in favour of an autumn election.

Kinnock accuses, page 2
Ronald Butt, page 14
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Test of mettle by media

Melinda Wittstock reports on an outbreak of election fever on TV even though a poll may be many months away

The call to the hustings may be many months away, but yesterday saw the start of the pre-election season of Sunday afternoon live television interviews aimed at testing the political mettle of the prime ministerial contenders.

John Major was the first of the leaders to be called up in the "phoney campaign", submitting yesterday to a live 50-minute interrogation by LWT's Brian Walden. Neil Kinnock, preparing himself for the same tough treatment two weeks from now, settled for a taped interview on Radio 4's *The World This Weekend*.

Within minutes of the conclusion of Mr Major's interview, political pundits, image-makers and broadcasters were ready with their judgments of the prime minister's performance. Depending on which side of the political fence they sit, Mr Major was "rattled" and "defensive" or "refreshingly honest" and "straight-forward". Brian Walden was either "rude and bullying" or the "real orator, the winner".

What nobody could resist was the inevitable comparison in leadership style to that of Margaret Thatcher. Following her 11-year reign

Continued on page 20, col 7

Touch of kindness gives cause for hope

From EDWARD GORMAN IN SAR DASHT
ON THE BORDER OF IRAN AND IRAQ

IT IS difficult to find any signs of hope in this remote mountain-top town where scores of people are dying and, like images from the slums of Calcutta, dead babies are left out on the pavements in the mornings to be taken away for burial. But in a small overcrowded ward of the Imam Khomeini hospital two frail, speechless boys are being brought back from the brink of death by the loving care of Peregrine Rasul, aged 19.

My guide, an English teacher from the Iraqi Kurdistan town of Arbil, pointed out the boys, aged about four and two. They were lying together under a blue cover on an old iron hospital bed, both staring at the ceiling. On a tray next to the bed was a half-finished bowl of baby food and a feeding bottle. A folder with case notes prescribed treatment for starvation and exposure.

"These two children haven't any parents; we don't know the parents," Fadil Abdullah said. "Their parents left them on the way because of the Iraqi bombing, and we don't know if they are dying or not." As he spoke, the young nurse was brought in to explain how she had decided to take the boys under her wing.

"Nobody has asked to take these children," she said. "I am taking care of them only because they are human beings. I am mothering them. I

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GOOD WRITING IN THE TIMES

WOMEN



Liz Gill wonders whether a women-only service for "lone female" drivers will create a false sense of insecurity Page 12

CITIES



Richard Cork looks beyond the blight and the Bull Ring, to find an airy freedom making itself felt in Birmingham Page 13

POLITICS



Ronald Butt blames the attacks on John Major by fellow Tories on the periodic deathwish that affects political parties Page 14

Executive exit

Almost one in four chief executives from major European and British companies are thinking about quitting to spend more time with their families Page 3

Paintings found

Twenty paintings by Vincent van Gogh were recovered by Dutch police yesterday only 35 minutes after they had been stolen from a museum in the centre of Amsterdam Page 20

Bank talks

Heads of state and finance ministers from nearly 40 countries gathered in London for today's inauguration of the newly constituted European Bank for Reconstruction and Development which will back investment and infrastructure projects in former Soviet bloc economies Page 21

Leading article, page 15

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WWF acts to save endangered London zoo

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

THE World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), noted for its intrepid campaigns to save the giant panda and the African elephant, could be rushing to the rescue of the most endangered species of all, the London zoo.

The WWF, whose fund-raising skill is acknowledged throughout the world, heads a group of conservation organisations which might help the beleaguered 164-year-old institution from extinction after the government's refusal to provide a £30 million lifeline.

The fund, whose international president is the Duke of Edinburgh, is having talks with the Zoological Society of London about moving its international conservation education centre to Regent's Park. Ironically that could lead to government money finding its way to the zoo by default through the coffers of the Overseas Development Administration, which is responsible for channelling aid to Third World governments. A number of governments have asked the WWF to extend its international education programme and would help pay for it with money received from Britain.

The society, which runs the zoo, is expected to tell the environment department at a second meeting later this month that it is pursuing a new arrangement which would allow it to emerge as an international centre for conservation education with fewer animals. Public hostility to the government's intransigence at an initial meeting last week to save the zoo as a national treasure is reflected in people's response to an appeal for money. Cash donations and promises have approached £1 million within the past week. A strong contingent of runners in next Sunday's London Marathon is also pledging sponsorship support. The zoo made it clear yesterday, however, that regardless of the degree of public support things will never be the same again at Regent's Park, from where there will be a migration of some of the 8,000 species to Whipsnade wild animal park.

Among other conservation groups, the Flora and Fauna Preservation Society also emerged as a potential partner in developing a new role for London zoo. Julie Fitzherbert-Brockholes, for the zoo, denied reports that it was contemplating a greenfield removal to Birmingham or Hackney in east London and emphasised that the 6,000 acres at Whipsnade were more than large enough to accommodate in more natural surroundings species evacuated from the 36 acres in the royal park. "Regardless of the degree of public support we shall be changing, as we have been for the past 20 years, from a stamp collection-style assembly of animals to a site for conservation. We are in the early days of discussions with the WWF and other conservation groups," she said.

☐ Police were yesterday hunting a group of animal rights supporters who broke open cages to set free animals and birds, daubed slogans and caused thousands of pounds worth of damage at the Highland Wildlife Park at Aviemore in Scotland.

Matthew Parris, page 14
Diary, page 14



Kinnock scorns the Tories and lays out his priorities

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

NEIL Kinnock yesterday accused the government of "juggling" with the economy for its own political ends without making any long-term strategic plans. The Labour leader said that the electorate would not be taken in with the idea that the economy "looked OK" because of the usual pre-election "spasm of relaxation".

With the Labour party due to unveil its policies for government under the banner of "Opportunity Britain" tomorrow, Mr Kinnock scorned the attempt by John Major and the Conservatives to assume the mantle of the party that most believed in opportunity.

"The basic difference is that we mean it and they do not mean it," Mr Kinnock said when challenged on the similarities of the two approaches. "Mr Major and his colleagues have been sitting round that cabinet table – Mr Major for four years, his colleagues for longer – and they have been eroding the provision and means of increasing opportunity for the invidual and the community."

He said: "If there is any idea associated with me in particular it is the idea of opportunity, of nourishing people's capabilites, of seeing that they are properly cared for by means of the collective resources of the community."

Attacking Mr Major, he said: "We hear that he is in favour of the opportunity society, the classless society. This is the man who was the minister of state for social security who invented the social fund... it is an outrage. This is the man who presided over the management of public expenditure as the health service and the education system became critically underfunded. This is the man who held 15 per cent interest rates for a year."

Measures to improve education and training and to build a new partnership with industry will form the core of the Labour policy document and the basis of the election manifesto. A Labour government's priorities would include a new training bill obliging employers who take on school-leavers to train them, raising training standards, and ensuring that government money for training schemes was spent on courses that produced qualifications.

The 20,000-word document, the successor to *Looking to the Future*, will be approved at an all-day meeting of the Labour party's national executive today, and will be launched by Mr Kinnock tomorrow.

Mr Kinnock was speaking on the Radio 4 programme, *The World This Weekend*, while Mr Major was being interviewed on television. Mr Kinnock denounced the government's £140 poll tax reductions as a fraud and acclaimed his party's alternative fair rates plan.

"A property-based tax system that has built into it the ability to relate obligations to pay to ability to pay is the best of the bunch," he said.

Pressed on whether Labour would rate-cap high-spending authorities, Mr Kinnock said that Labour's plan to introduce annual elections for councillors would be the best of all disciplines. "Nothing concentrates the mind and conduct of a democratic politician more than the fact that they are frequently having to account for their action to the local electorate."

In a reference to Lambeth Mr Kinnock said he had no compunction over "putting outside the area of the party" councillors who brought the party into disrepute.

He said there would be no compulsion on the new grant-maintained schools to return to the public sector but they would be entitled to do so.

The possibility of Labour winning overall control in the general election with an 8 per cent swing was "very much on", he added.

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HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Rapt attention: spectators protected against the cold at Fenner's cricket ground yesterday, where Cambridge university was playing Lancashire. Around the country, temperatures dropped by up to 20F to around seasonal averages, bringing an abrupt end to the mini-heatwave with little chance of it returning in the next few days

TED BATH



Neil Kinnock, wearing a yarmulka, talks to Dr Lionel Kopelowitz, president of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, after addressing the board yesterday. Later, at a remembrance service in London's Hyde Park, the plight of the Kurds was likened to the fate of the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust, as worshippers led by Chief Rabbi Lord Jakobovits paid tribute to the Jewish victims of the Nazis. Unlike the Kurds, the Jews who died did not have the attention of the world, he said. During the service, six candles were lit by women survivors of the Holocaust.

Wardens' role may not be the ticket for new policeman

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

THE traffic warden, that humble and much-maligned figure on the urban landscape, is about to come under the scrutiny of the Audit Commission. The commission is hoping to use the warden's work to prompt a debate on a realistic job description for Britain's police.

In the latest investigation in a four-year study of provincial police work, the commission is planning to examine how police use their traffic-warden units and question whether such work should be given over to local authorities. In London a number of local councils have already taken over traffic-warden work from Scotland Yard.

At a time when there is increasing pressure on the police to use wardens to improve traffic flows, the commission believes the warden manpower of many forces is below strength. The investigation will examine the management of wardens and use the study as a vehicle to raise questions over what general role the police should assume in the late 20th Century.

Bill Guy, currently heading the commission's police work, said it planned to use the investigation as a vehicle to look at the boundaries of police work. "At the moment the police often had functions which they shared with other agencies, such as the social services. They had a responsibility with other agencies for crime prevention and were currently under pressure to do something about litter.

But were these police functions? Could they be done better by someone else? "It's worth standing back and saying 'What do we want a police force for?' We need to have a clearer definition of what police are doing to get an idea of the quality of service," said Mr Guy. It would then be possible to fashion the quality-of-service contract which both the government and the Labour Party were now talking of creating between the public and police.

The investigation will lead to the eleventh paper the commission has produced on the police. According to Howard Davies, commission controller, what has emerged so far shows methods for assessing what the police do, how they use their energies and what they achieve, remain woefully primitive.

The commission's investigations have shown doubts over the responsiveness of the 999 system, a waste of police-training property, a lack of realism in charging for police services and mismanagement in buying clothing. Only a quarter of police work, it has discovered, is scrutinised for efficiency.

The commission's path has not been strewn with roses, but criticisms have been taken up. It is supported by some of the most senior chief constables and others read its reports with care, for they can prove highly embarrassing and revelatory even for the man in command.



Davies: methods for assessing police primitive

Last year the commission concentrated on management and funding, taking an iconoclastic swipe at the philosophy which powers the machinery of the police service. They have brought into question not only the way the police run themselves but how they are controlled from county halls and Whitehall.

Given the inefficiencies of the service and its huge cost tight controls would seem a reasonable response. Instead the Audit Commission argues that control flattens flexibility and prevents local officers responding to demand. They would now like to see a series of major reforms. At the very top the Home Office and the Department of the Environment should review the government contributions to police coffers, which now run to almost 70 per cent of the total budget.

Police authorities should treat chief constables as adults and free their purse strings. Chief officers could in turn have more confidence in their own commanders. Forces should streamline their bureacracy, releasing funds and decisions to officers at local level. Matched with a slimmer, realistic definition of police work, officers could then give the public the service they promise.

Retrial sought in Bowbelle hearing

THE Crown Prosecution Service is today expected to seek a retrial after a jury failed to reach a verdict in the case of Captain Douglas Henderson, who is charged with failing to keep a proper lookout on the dredger Bowbelle, which collided with a pleasure boat two years ago with the loss of 51 lives (Ray Clancy writes).

Captain Henderson, aged 33, of Newcastle upon Tyne, who denied the charge, has been released on bail. An announcement is not likely until the end of the week, when the evidence has been reviewed. There is to be a series of meetings, including one with the police officers involved in preparing the case.

If the retrial goes ahead, the case would be listed immediately on the court schedules but is unlikely to be heard for several months. The alternative would be for the CPS to offer no evidence against Captain Henderson and the charge, under the Merchant Shipping Act, that he endangered life by failing to ensure by all means that a proper lookout was kept, would be dropped.

On Saturday the jury at the Central Criminal Court indicated to the judge that there was no prospect of arriving at a verdict. They were dismissed on their second day of trying to agree on a verdict.

Survivors and relatives of those who died when the Thames cruiser the Marchioness sank after the collision near Southwark bridge, said they were disappointed that no verdict had been reached. They called for a public enquiry and said further delays only added to the trauma they were suffering. A report by the Marine Accident Investigation Bureau has not been made public.

At the trial the prosecution alleged that the communication system between the Bowbelle's bridge and the bow was deficient and that Captain Henderson was at fault. Edmund Lawson, QC, for the defence, said that the prosecution had not proved its case.

Bodies of missing fishermen found by RAF crew

By JOHN VINCENT

TWO men who went missing during a fishing trip in the English Channel were found dead by the crew of an RAF helicopter last night, 30 hours after they were last seen alive.

Earlier, their upturned 17ft boat was found 25 miles south of Dungeness and west of Le Touquet. Three helicopters, one aircraft and six lifeboats had been involved in the search for the men, named by police as Brian Davis, aged 43, and his daughter's fiancé, Julian Turner, aged 23, both from Maidstone, Kent.

They were lost in rough seas after leaving Dymchurch, Kent, on Saturday afternoon. Their bodies were found within a mile of the spot where the boat was found.

In Staffordshire, two pilots escaped serious injury when their light aircraft collided in mid-air over Handsacre. One of the aircraft lost part of its tail and had to make a crash-landing.

Steven Roberts, aged 34, crash-landed his crippled biplane in a cornfield. Mr Roberts, of Ashby de la Zouch, walked away from the wreckage. Peter Tanualk, the other pilot, landed safely.

In Dyfed yesterday, a car carrying ten people hit the central reservation of the M4 near Llanelli, killing two and injuring eight. No other vehicle was involved.

In Buckinghamshire, a man drowned yesterday when he lost control of a tractor he was using to cut grass and careered into a river at Stoney Stratford, Milton Keynes. The vehicle is believed to have overturned on top of him in the water.

In Somerset, members of a touring Romanian national rugby team faced possible prosecution after a shop in Taunton claimed that they went on a shoplifting spree.

In West Yorkshire, soccer players Paul Gibson and Paul Ellis had a lucky escape after falling out of the back window of the team coach as it travelled at 40mph.

Volunteers search for missing girl

Hundreds of volunteers joined police and soldiers yesterday in a search of Bridport, Dorset, Jo Ramsden, a missing Down's Syndrome girl aged 21, who vanished six days ago and who police fear may have been abducted. The search of empty buildings, cliffs and fields, will continue today. She was last seen near her father's shop in Bridport on Tuesday.

Two men who were seen with Jo shortly before she went missing, have not come forward.

● A 14-year-old girl with a mental age of seven was found safe and well in West Hendon, north London, yesterday, 48 hours after she went missing.

Tree guarded

Villagers at Preston, near Hull, are keeping a 24-hour guard on an old ash tree, focal point of the village, because they fear it will be pulled down to make way for a housing estate before the council can issue a preservation order. At the Deer Park at Berkeley, near Dursley, in Gloucestershire, however, an arsonist burnt down a 500-year-old oak tree yesterday in spite of the efforts of firemen.

Four arrested

Four men were arrested after violence at a National Front meeting in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, on Saturday, police said yesterday. About 25 National Front supporters clashed with 100 demonstrators after the meeting, which was held to organise the group's campaign in the forthcoming local government election. Police said that four men would face public order charges next month.

Abortion offer

One in three pregnant women over the age of 40 is automatically offered an abortion by their doctor, it was disclosed today. A survey of 346 women aged between 40 and 49 shows that tests for birth defects are rarely carried out before the offer, according to Dr Julia Berryman, a chartered psychologist at Leicester university.

Ulster killings fuel fears over talks

By A STAFF CORRESPONDENT

TWO more people were murdered in Northern Ireland at the weekend, underlining a sharp increase in violence as preparations begin for all-party talks.

Local politicians believe that the growing number of murders by Republican and Loyalist para-militaries is not just the result of tit-for-tat attacks but an attempt by terrorists to undermine the talks.

Nine people have been killed in 15 days and 22 people have died violently in Northern Ireland so far this year. Since the troubles began about 2,871 people have lost their lives.

Police yesterday appealed to the public for information about the latest killings. Early on Saturday, Ian Sproule, aged 23, a Protestant, was shot dead by the IRA outside his home at Killen, Castlederg, County Tyrone. His father found him lying in the driveway in a pool of blood. He had no connections with the security forces and had returned only recently from England to live with his parents.

The IRA claimed responsibility for Mr Spoule's death and alleged he was linked to the outlawed Loyalist group, the Ulster Volunteer Force. Police said there was no suggestion Mr Sproule had any connection with the UVF. The Democratic Unionist party described the murder as purely sectarian.

The body of the second victim was discovered on Saturday afternoon in an antiques shop in Lisburn, County Antrim. The IRA admitted killing Earnest McCrum, aged 61, an off-duty RUC sergeant.

Police went to the shop after a caller to local media claimed the IRA had shot a policeman in the town. Mr McCrum was due to have retired from the police force later this year.

Meanwhile, Ireland's President, Mary Robinson, said yesterday that extending the hand of friendship to both communities in Northern Ireland was a high priority of her presidency. During an interview on BBC Radio Ulster's *Sunday Newsbreak* programme Mrs Robinson – in London today for the opening of the European Bank – said more cross-border contact and understanding was needed. She cited the example of the French and the Germans, who had come together, even though they had once killed thousands of each other. Nothing would give her more joy than helping to promote peace in Northern Ireland.

First champion wins a place in crossword final

THE London B regional final of *The Times* Collins Dictionaries crossword championship at the London Hilton yesterday was won by Roy Dean, the man who won the first championship in 1970 (John Grant writes). Mr Dean, aged 64, a writer and broadcaster from Bromley, Kent, solved the four puzzles in an average time of 12½ minutes each.

Michael Trollope, aged 44, of Worthing, was second and Mr J.G.R. Stow, 59, of Henley-on-Thames, third. Fourth place went to Anne Kiggell, of Pangbourne. The London A final on Saturday was won by Michael Wareham, the national champion in 1986. Mr Wareham, 49, a Fyfe headmaster, completed the four puzzles in an average of 9½ minutes. Another former national champion, Tony Sever, 46, was second, and a newcomer, Richard Rogan, 29, was third. Richard Jacks, 41, a teacher at Putney, took the fourth place.

Paul Henderson, a criminal policy researcher at the Home Office, completed the last puzzle on Saturday in under four minutes – a record in recent years.

For sale: one family's loved home of the last 800 years

The Biglands, who have lived on their ancestral estate since 1161, have to leave. Christopher Warman reports

THE Bigland Hall estate in Cumbria has been the ancestral home of one family for more than 800 years. Through direct descent, sometimes through the female line, the Biglands have lived there at least since 1161.

Their occupancy, reputed to be the longest by any family of an ancestral home in Britain, is nearing an end, however. The latest in the line, Richard Bigland, is selling the estate, at Newby Bridge, because increasing costs have made it impossible for the family to maintain it.

Mr Bigland, aged 52 and married with three sons, has lived there since the end of the second world war, when he was seven. His father, who was in the RAF, was killed in the final year of the war, a tragedy that proved to be a mortal, though delayed, blow for the estate too.

"If my father, a solicitor, had survived I believe we could still keep going," Mr Bigland said. The combination of his death and the "crippling death duties" that followed put the estate into difficulties. "There is a great feeling of sadness, particularly after my mother struggled on her own to maintain the estate.

"It's the end of an era, the Bigland era, and I only hope that some really feeling person will take it on, with the staff, to keep it as it is," Mr Bigland said.

Until the war the Biglands were well off, but they were reduced to selling daffodils at the local market. About 20 years ago Richard Bigland, one of the first estate owners to introduce diversification, began a riding school and has since converted part of the hall to holiday flats and offered country sports, including clay pigeon shooting and archery.

After his experiences he remains sceptical of the value of diversification, which has failed to save Biglands. Another alternative would be selling to the National Trust, but the trust invariably requires an endowment to guarantee future upkeep.

Biglands remains a traditional sporting estate, with a pheasant shoot and coarse and trout fishing on the two private lakes. The grade 2 listed hall, with its Georgian frontage and medieval structure behind, looks out over the lakeland peaks and across Morecambe Bay to a view that has scarcely changed over centuries.

Andrew Macpherson, of Knight Frank and Rutley, which is asking over £2 million for the estate, describes it as an extraordinary property because of its family history and the rarity of 1,000-acre estates in the Lake District.

"There has not been the opportunity to buy such an estate in the area in the last 10 years," he said. "I would expect it to be bought as a residential estate by someone who wants to continue the sporting amenities".

Link with chairman denied

By SIMON TAIT, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

SIR Alex Alexander, the investment banker who is chairman of the Royal Opera House Trust, which raises funds for Covent Garden, denied yesterday that his relinquishing of the role had any connection with the retirement of the Opera House chairman announced last week.

He said his three-year period as trust chairman ended last September and he was asked to carry on for a fourth. "I agreed to do the extra year but only one year," Sir Alex said last night. "I have not resigned and I have made no announcements because no announcement has been necessary. There is no connection with Lord Sainsbury's decision to retire as chairman of the main board. I cannot help coincidences or people trying to add two and two but it is flavour of the month to bash Covent Garden and all it stands for."

Last month some sponsors criticised facilities at Covent Garden, and last year Philip Jones, financial director of the Royal Opera House, said that the recession might make the raising of new sponsorship more difficult.



Sir Alex: "I have not resigned"

"I could not disagree more," Sir Alex said. "You have only to look at the list of new sponsors in our programme, which includes Goldman Sachs and many more names; I for one see nothing but complete satisfaction and smiling faces among them."

Last year the trust raised more than £6 million to aid the Royal Opera House with its task of reducing its deficit, which stands now at £4.75 million. A new trust chairman is being sought and Sir Alex, who is European chairman of Lehman Brothers International, is canvassing a number of possibilities.

Rates: The Times overseas Austria Sch 32; Belgium B Frs 60; Canada $2.75; Canaries Pes 220; Cyprus 90 cents; Denmark Dkr 14.00; Finland Mrk 15.00; France F 11.00; W Germany DM 4.00; Gibraltar 90p; Greece Dr 500; Holland Gl 4.00; Irish Republic 45p; Italy L 3,000; Luxembourg 32 BF; Madeira Esc 220; Malta 45c; Morocco Dir 20.00; Norway Kr 14.00; Pakistan Rps 18; Portugal Esc 220; Spain Pes 220; Sweden Skr 16.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.80; Tunisia Din 1.80; USA $3.00.

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One in four captains of industry want to jump ship

By TIM JONES, EMPLOYMENT CORRESPONDENT

ALMOST one in four chief executives from major European and British companies are thinking about leaving the boardroom to spend more time with their families.

A survey published today says that they are no longer willing to adopt the "workaholic, success at any cost ideology that exists in the United States".

Questionnaires completed anonymously by 118 chief executives and their spouses showed 24 per cent were considering launching their own companies, starting new careers outside management, taking early retirement, setting up as consultants or taking jobs at more junior levels.

The survey, in the latest issue of *PM Plus*, published by the Institute of Personnel Management, shows the level of disillusionment is even higher among those under 50, with 36 per cent considering an alternative lifestyle.

The survey suggests younger chief executives are more likely to have working wives increasingly demanding that they share domestic responsibilities. The authors, Professor Gary Cooper and Valerie Sutherland, a lecturer in organisational psychology at Manchester University institute of science and technology, reported: "This is a direct consequence of unrealistic corporate expectations of executive lifestyles, and the unnecessary and destructive pressures of forced organisational commitment, much of which has been brought over the Atlantic from the American corporate world."

Much of the pressure, the survey shows, comes from spouses who are concerned about the effect of work on their partner's health. More than 40 per cent believed that *heart disease and "job burnout"* were real risks.

While only 37 per cent of chief executives rated work overload as a source of pressure, 62 per cent of spouses perceived it to be a real source of strain. However, only 17 per cent of spouses believed that the executive lifestyle was bad for family life, while 42 per cent actually considered it to be good.

Two-thirds of the chief executives said they worked about 12 hours a day and some up to 16 hours a day.

The authors say: "While the traditional aspects of executive stress, workload, time pressures and keeping up with new technology, are on the decline as job stressers, the quality of life issues are now in the ascendant.

The authors suggest that, in addition to annual medicals, executives should have quality-of-life check-ups, work more from home, take six-month sabbaticals abroad with a subsidiary company and cut unnecessary meetings and weekend working.

They add, however: "If anything, the recession is likely to exacerbate the sources of strain identified by the survey, with the fear of redundancy causing people at all levels to work increasingly long hours in an effort to demonstrate commitment."

● Researchers at King's College London say recruiters are deliberately flouting guidelines introduced by the Institute of Personnel Managers in January, aimed at eradicating "ageism".

A survey, reported in *Personnel Today*, says 80 per cent of managers think age limits in job advertisements are a justifiable way of deterring applicants with outdated skills and qualifications, while 90 per cent believe age limits are a justifiable job qualification.

TUC tries to win greater influence

THE trade union movement is regrouping to maximise its influence on economic, social and industrial affairs, after a decade of heavy losses manning the barricades against what it sees as a relentless attack by a hostile government. (Tim Jones writes).

Towards 2000, a policy document published today by the TUC, says that the "crude free-marketeers who dreamt of a society without unions have failed to turn their fantasies into reality", and adds: "We retain the loyalty of millions of working people who look to us to achieve for them what they cannot achieve alone."

In fact, union membership over the past ten years has fallen from almost *13 million* to just over eight million. The document says that, unless membership and union influence increases, the movement will be unable to help "millions of individuals who will find themselves isolated and weak in the face of intense competition and a rapidly increasing pace of change".

The report was prompted partly by the financial difficulties of the TUC, which has introduced a voluntary redundancy scheme and reduced its activities to clear a £2 million deficit. The document makes it clear that increasing the TUC's membership and power in the workplace will be easier if a Labour government is elected.

"Both the TUC and the Labour party have taken the principled position that a new, fairer framework of Labour law requires that individual workers should be entitled, where a union is not recognised, to union representation on individual matters," it says. "Both are committed to the principle that statutory procedures should be available to enable recognition to be won from unwilling employers."

● The car industry's top union leaders are to meet Albert Caspers, Ford's production chief in Europe, it has been disclosed.

The meeting, due to take place in London on April 25, is expected to cover the present world slump in car sales. It has fuelled fears among union officials that Ford is going to cut back on car manufacture in Britain.

IAN JONES



Court appearance: players in the first under-23 fives championships battle for honours at Eton College yesterday. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the first purpose-built fives courts at the college, although the game is believed to have originated in the 12th century

Lamont to investigate his tenant

By BILL FROST

NORMAN Lamont, the Chancellor, said that if a Sunday newspaper report that his home at Notting Hill, London, was being rented out to a prostitute proved correct, he would take all steps to ensure she left.

Mr Lamont said in a statement: "My wife and I decided to let our house in Notting Hill. The tenants were found by reputable agents. Although I have never met the tenants myself, I can confirm that the references taken up included not only personal references but also references from solicitors, a bank and a building society. They were, or certainly appeared to be, entirely satisfactory.

"Needless to say, if the allegations in the *News of the World* article are true it is my intention to take all steps within my power to ensure that the tenants vacate this property," he said. "Should anyone publish anything which reflects adversely on me, or my wife, I shall have no hesitation in taking such steps as I consider necessary. All further enquiries should be referred to my solicitors."

The *News of the World* article emphasised that neither the Chancellor nor his wife knew prior to publication that the property was being used by a prostitute. The article claimed that the prostitute moved in to the house three weeks ago, after the Lamonts took up residence at 11 Downing Street.

Smaller firms 'failing to protect the environment'

By MICHAEL MCCARTHY
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH industry's record in tackling its environmental responsibilities is still very patchy, according to the man leading a crusade to turn industry green.

Tony Cleaver, chairman and chief executive of IBM UK, says that most large companies have accepted their responsibility to protect the environment, but many smaller businesses see it as someone else's problem or feel that they cannot afford to give it attention.

Mr Cleaver is chairman of Business in the Environment (BiE), the task force set up to raise environmental concern. Today he will join David Trippier, the environment minister, in Manchester to launch the latest BiE initiative, a series of regional seminars to help the business community to understand new environmental regulations.

Mr Cleaver and his team of nine industrialists are trying to spread the message that caring for the environment is good for business. In November they produced an environmental guide for chief executives, accompanied by a video film featuring John Cleese and the Prince of Wales, founder-president of BiE. In June they will publish a manual to enable smaller companies to review their businesses environmentally.

BiE was launched in 1989. Is the message getting across?



Cleaver: "Green concern is good for business"

"It's very patchy," Mr Cleaver said in an interview with *The Times*. "Most of the larger organisations really are now aware, and most of them are actively doing something. As you go down in size, though, there are still a lot of medium-sized and smaller businesses who either genuinely don't see it as their problem, or feel it something they can't afford to give much attention to." A lot depended, he said, on having someone on the board taking a personal interest.

Mr Cleaver's conviction of the need for business to go green has several sources. As a businessman, he is conscious of business opportunities and dangers. He points out that the tightening of environmental regulations in many countries can provide chances to capture new markets. Those who fail to do so face, at the very least, the risk of flawed investment decisions. He reflects the green thinking in IBM, whose American parent company produced a written environmental policy statement as long ago as 1971. Under his leadership the British arm has set itself demanding environmental targets, such as phasing out all CFCs used as cleaners in its computer production by 1993. It has pioneered in-company environmental debate, and has been a notable donor of money and computer equipment to green causes.

But Mr Cleaver's conviction is mostly personal. "I believe we have a responsibility to put back into the world more than we take out," he said. "If it's true that business creates the problems of pollution, it's also true that only business can solve them."

Gummer may back whaling

BRITAIN may next month agree to the resumption of commercial whaling, outlawed since 1986, and face the anger of environmentalists (Michael McCarthy writes).

Caught in a dilemma, the government is likely to feel obliged to back whaling for the very reason it has opposed it: its insistence on adhering to scientific advice, which is now supporting some whaling within strict limits.

"All the British environmental and animal welfare groups will be shocked at any endorsement of whaling, no matter how limited," Allan Thornton, of the Environmental Investigation Agency, said.

Britain has been a staunch supporter of the whaling moratorium, agreed in 1982, because scientists accepted that various whale species were being driven to extinction as not enough was known about their numbers.

However, at next month's meeting of the International Whaling Commission in Reykjavik, both those issues will at last have been addressed after much scientific work, and the countries which wish to continue whaling—Iceland, Norway and Japan—will seek the lifting of the moratorium.

Official regional estimates of stocks are available for minke whales, the species all three wish to hunt, and scientists are putting the finishing touches to revised management procedures enabling limited hunting to go ahead on a renewable basis. If that is the case, the British government is unlikely to oppose it, a recent letter to MPs from John Gummer, the agriculture and fisheries minister, makes clear.

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today: MPs return to Commons after Easter recess. Scottish TUC annual congress begins. Safer driving for women campaign launched. Auction of Titanic memorabilia. Village Appraisals Scheme launched. Queen and Duke of Edinburgh visit Duke of York's ship HMS Campbeltown.

Tomorrow: Cabinet committee discusses local government finance. English Heritage launches campaign on refurbishment of properties. Producer prices published. Princess of Wales visits Bridgwater and Taunton. Princess Royal speaks at opening of Crime Concern National Youth campaign. Queen receives Archbishop of Canterbury.

Wednesday: Scottish Landowners' Federation AGM. Fifth anniversary of kidnapping of British journalist John McCarthy remembered by former hostage Brian Keenan and others. *UK Press Gazette* awards. Police national drugs conference begins. Safety of tap water conference.

Thursday: *Industrial output* and unemployment figures published. Conference on ways to stop inmates reoffending. Duchess of York attends film premiere of Zeffirelli's *Hamlet*.

Friday: Dr George Carey enthroned as Archbishop of Canterbury. Money supply figures published. Duke and Duchess of Devonshire celebrate golden wedding.

Saturday: Shakespeare birthday celebrations.

Sunday: Census day. London marathon.

Where history ends and the news begins

By PHILIP HOWARD

WE ARE still arguing about the point at which current affairs turn into history. The truth is that they are both part of a close-linked chain of understanding of what makes our societies tick. The annual meeting of the Classical Association at Warwick university ended at the weekend with a stirring examination of events more than 25 centuries ago seen as current affairs and relevant today.

Was our first tragedian, Aeschylus, a male chauvinist shellback from the local equivalent of the Bruges group, or a radical democrat? In particular, did Aeschylus approve or disapprove of the reforms of Ephialtes, which stripped the conservative *areopagus* of its guardianship of the laws, and handed over government to a popular assembly and council?

Angus Bowie, of Queen's College, Oxford, argued that it is more useful to look at the likely reactions of his audience rather than to try to pin down the slippery Proteus of a great poet. In the *Oresteia* the move from the chthonic justice of the Furies to an Olympian-human justice, still incorporating aspects of the old vendetta sanctions, can be read as a metaphor for the contemporary changes in the judicial system in Athens. One system gives way to another, but the earlier system is not obliterated. The losers are left with a subordinate but still crucial role. The mythical changes are beneficial in that the gains of the majority outweigh the losses of those deposed. If you must sign Aeschylus up into a political party (like Shakespeare, unlike party politicians, he saw all sides of an issue), you can put him down as a white hat.

Jenny March, of University College London, examined the many faces of Electra down the centuries, from guilt-haunted revenge murderess to feminist dancing with triumph until she dies of joy, as she does in Strauss's opera. Professor Derek Mosley, of Warwick university, examined the curious incident of the absence of words for neutrality in the ancient world. Richard Seaford, of Exeter, university asked why the god Dionysus makes so few and such brief appearances in Homer. Maurice Byrne, of Leamington Spa, showed what the ancient lyre, that most universal symbol of music, actually looked like and how it worked.

The conference has demonstrated in many fields how the classics are neither élitist nor irrelevant. They are our living roots, and they still run strongly just below the surface of the way we live now.

Tories blamed for 'criminal culture'

By RAY CLANCY

UNREPORTED crime has risen to a record level because the government's complacency has fostered a culture in which a crime is committed every two seconds, the Labour party said as Crime Prevention Week was launched at the Tower of London today.

While showbusiness and sports personalities started the £4.5 million government campaign with stories of how they had been victims of crime, Roy Hattersley, shadow home secretary, unveiled his party's report, *Crime without Prevention*. He said it showed the Conservatives were no longer the party of law and order.

Eighteen million crimes were committed in 1990, unreported crime could be up to four times greater than crime reported by the police, and a crime was committed every two seconds, according to the survey of England and Wales. "Reported crime has risen by 90 per cent since 1978, yet the clear-up rate has decreased by 10 per cent. In 1978 someone could expect to be burgled every minute but now two burglaries take place every minute," said Mr Hattersley.

The campaign was a waste of money, he said. People wanted comprehensive action to stop crime.

The actress Beryl Reid, who was burgled while appearing on a live chat show, said television companies should not announce live show apparances. "These burglars watched me go off to do the Terry Wogan show and thought, "she'll be gone for four hours". Philip Schofield, the television presenter, said he had two briefcases stolen. "It was just stupidity. Putting it down and not keeping an eye on it."

Liz Gill, page 12
Leading article, page 15

ADRIAN BROOKS



To the dungeons? Beefeaters carry slogan boards to the Crime Prevention Week launch at the Tower

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THE GREAT MUSTARD CLUB MYSTERY

IS 1991 CENSUS A CLEVER RUSE TO BOOST MEMBERSHIP?

ASKS IVOR STOREY. OUR INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER

ALERTED by my informant in Whitehall, I have uncovered a plot of national importance. If my sources are right, the 1991 Census is really a massive recruiting drive by the Mustard Club.

"HOW DID you find out?" asked the Colonel resignedly. "Easy," I boasted, "I rang the appropriate Government department and they told me that a Census means the names and whereabouts of the whole population, young and old, are mustered every ten years."

COLONEL M——D was not pleased. "A careless slip of the tongue," he said,

'And I thought you could count on those Census people'.

IS IT true that the Mustard Club has been secretly recruiting in this way for decades? If you've had a form through your door, you will know that the evidence is irrefutable.



Last Census figures showed this featured strongly on tables of British population.

I WENT straight to the top and confronted their Hon. Sec., the elusive Colonel M——d himself. At first he denied the charge. "Come Sir," I said, "Census day is April 21st...a Sunday. *Is it a coincidence that it's* the day of meat and two veg? Top mustard time of the week? It means you'll know everybody who was at home for lunch. All potential new members!"

Conflict over pace of change in a countryside idyll

ON Wednesday the Peak National Park, Britain's oldest, celebrates its 40th anniversary. While in many respects it has been a conspicuous success, it also encapsulates the problems and conflicts over the future of the countryside.

Its 542 square miles are surrounded by the industrial conurbations of the Midlands, Manchester and South Yorkshire. It owes its conception to the need to prevent further encroachment into wild and beautiful countryside, and to a conviction that the Dales and moorland should be accessible to the urban masses.

Much has changed since the days of the mass trespass on Kinder Scout and the formation of the Sheffield Association for the protection of local scenery. Much of the high moorland is now either owned by local authorities and the National Trust or is subject to access agreements. Its management is vested in a planning board that has extensive powers to control development.

Many residents feel, however, that over-restrictive planning policies are stifling enterprise, particularly efforts to diversify by hard-pressed farmers. The board is criticised for an idealistic view of the park as a place of beauty which

Not everyone is celebrating the anniversary of our oldest national park, reports **John Young**

should be permanently protected from change.

Local councils feel, in many cases, that their powers are being usurped by the board, which can overrule decisions. In December 1989, in response to a guidance note from the Department of the Environment on the countryside and the rural economy, Derbyshire Dales district council replied that it appeared to be weighted in favour of the needs of the visitor as opposed to the residents.

The dispute has wider implications, since the National Parks review panel is recommending that the powers of the Peak and Lake District boards should be extended to all parks. For Michael Dower, the Peak National Park officer and son of the man responsible for the white paper that led to the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act, 1949, the panel's recommendation is vindication.

It is untrue, he says, that the board wants to keep everything fossilised. He is aware that the districts feel constrained, but says that the board has striven to give a positive lead on housing, industrial and tourism policies. Of about 1,500 planning applications last year, more than 80 per cent were approved.

"What we are trying to do is to strike a balance, for instance between the needs of the quarrying industry and our statutory duty to protect the countryside," Mr Dower said. "We don't want the population of the park to grow, but we don't want it to fall either, and we accept the need for a modest increase in housing."



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Clarke faces clash over pay body for teachers

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

FRESH arguments over teachers' pay will erupt this week when the government is expected to announce proposals for a pay review body to replace the bill aimed at restoring negotiating rights.

Doug McAvoy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, said: "We are totally opposed to a pay review body. It will not allow us to negotiate an agreement and, even more frightening, it will seek to change conditions of work without any agreement. It is quite terrifying."

Mr McAvoy said that a pay review body would depress salaries and worsen conditions. The rot had set in, he said, with the Interim Advisory Committee on Teachers' Pay set up by the government when negotiation rights were removed four years ago. The committee had already changed conditions by introducing local discretionary payments. "I do not believe this would have ever happened if there had been negotiations," he said.

The NUT, the largest teachers' union, voted at its annual conference earlier this month to ballot members on industrial action as part of its campaign for the restoration of negotiating rights. The other teacher associations are broadly in favour of a review body provided it is genuinely independent.

In a letter to Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, the National Association of Headteachers said that constant shifts of policy were making it even more difficult for schools to introduce the government's education reforms. David Hart, the association's secretary, told Mr Clarke that there was an "urgent need for more stability and certainty to be injected into policy and its implementation".

Mr Hart said that the work of heads and deputies was "being made even more difficult by significant changes being made midstream". It was important for the role of the local education authorities to be made clear and for the uncertainty over teachers' pay to be removed. Mr Hart said that if the teachers' pay bill at present before Parliament was to be abandoned or significantly changed, as expected, the association would favour a review body as the best way of improving teachers' morale.

Jack Straw, Labour's front-bench spokesman on education, will today ask Mr Clarke to explain the delay in the pay bill. "The limbo must end," he said.

☐ Parents are to be asked to ensure that their children do regular homework after a government survey that showed that as little as ten minutes a night could improve examination performance.

Michael Fallon, the junior schools minister, told the annual conference of the National Confederation of Parent Teacher Associations that parents could help by switching off the television and insisting that their children spent the time reading and doing homework. "Children watch television for an average of 20 to 24 hours a week. How much better if even a quarter of that time was spent on homework and reading," he asked.

The five-year survey of 20,000 secondary school children shows that, although the national curriculum has increased work done after school, nearly one in three boys and one in five girls were not doing any homework.

Education, pages 26,27

Police hurt in battle at concert

Twelve policemen were injured and eight police vehicles damaged early yesterday after a near riot with hundreds of hippies when police tried to stop a concert in a field at Pitton, near Salisbury. Eight people were arrested.

Travellers hurled missiles as nearly 100 officers attempted to seize music equipment. The police acted after local people complained about noise. The travellers were asked to turn down the music but refused. Other travellers were turned away from the site at roadblocks.

Body found

Police on the Isle of Wight are investigating the discovery of a body in a burnt-out car. The wreckage was found in a chalk pit at Totland Bay.

Statue goes

Seaton council, in Devon, is to remove a £2,000 fibre-glass and polystyrene statue after three weeks because of public pressure, including a petition, attacks with tomatoes and paint, and an offer of £4,000 to have it taken away.

Boats burn

Ten hired holiday-cruisers valued at more than £150,000 sank yesterday as fire swept through a yacht basin at Horning, on the Norfolk Broads. Another six boats were damaged.

Dog rescue

RSPCA officers have renewed attempts to reach three dogs trapped underground at a disused quarry face at Varteg, Gwent, for ten days. The pets had picked a up a fox scent when they disappeared.

Bond winners

Winners in the National Savings Premium Bonds weekly prize draw are: £100,000, bond number 1HT 714381, winner lives in Devon; £50,000, 12LL 551335 (Cornwall); £25,000, 14BZ 685423 (Bristol).

Mute swans make a stealthy return

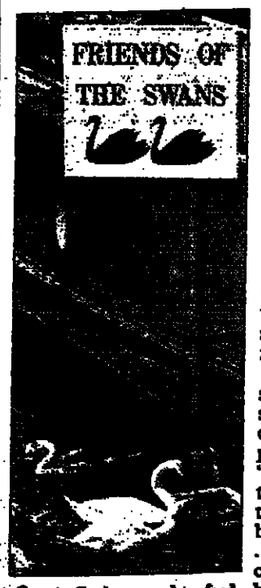
By JULIAN ROLLINS

THE mute swan is undergoing a remarkable recovery after decades of being poisoned by Britain's anglers, according to a national census of the birds.

The breeding success of the *cygnus olor* during the late 1980s has more than replaced the thousands who died from lead poisoning, and is causing a comeback at many of their traditional haunts. Before lead fishing weights were banned in 1987, thousands of the swans were thought to be dying each year as a result of swallowing the lead that collected in the mud on the bottoms of rivers and lakes.

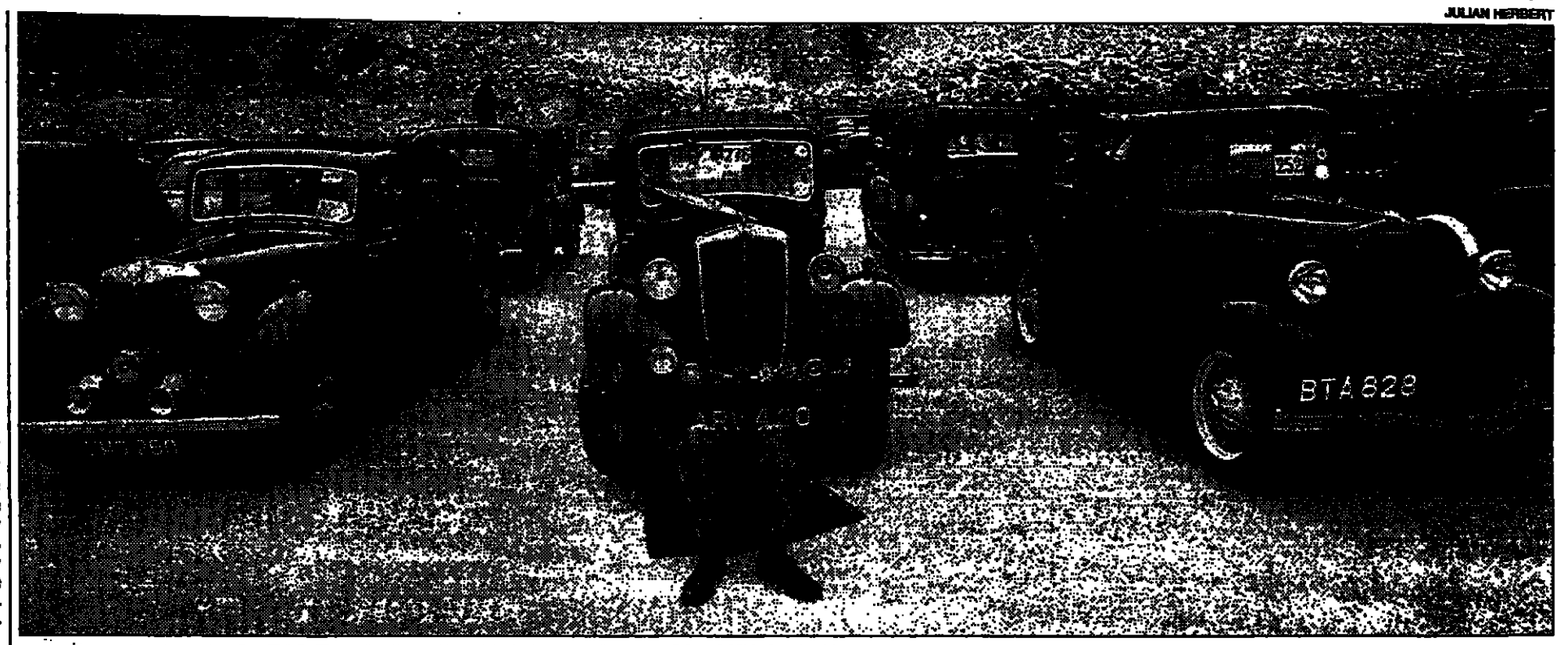
However, the new survey of mute swan numbers, carried out during the early summer of 1990, shows that the birds are flourishing and population levels are higher than they have been for at least 40 years. On some of England's lowland river systems, most notably the Thames, Trent and Warwickshire Avon, numbers have as much as tripled since 1983, when the last census was taken, according to Simon Delany, special surveys officer for the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust.

The survey was commissioned by the Nature Conservancy Council and full details of findings will be published early in 1992. "There has been an undoubted increase in numbers throughout the country of between 40 and 50 per cent .... and we believe that the cause has almost certainly been the ban on lead weights," Mr Delany said.



Swans flock around a feed dispenser in Bristol docks

JULIAN HERBERT



Checking for cobwebs: Dick Francis, from Cranleigh, Surrey, inspects his 1937 Morris Eight saloon at the annual "cobweb run" vintage car and motor-cycle gathering yesterday at Amberley Chalk Pits museum, near Arundel, West Sussex. More than 200 old vehicles had driven in convoys from various starting points to the museum

Car of Ruth Ellis's victim sold

A CAR belonging to David Blakeley, the racing driver shot dead by Ruth Ellis, was sold to an anonymous buyer for £12,100 at a Sotheby's sale of the contents of the transport museum in Ryde, Isle of Wight (John Shaw writes).

He would have been racing the Emperor-HRG Sports Special at the Goodwood Easter meeting in 1954, but it broke down. Blakeley, who had been deceiving Ellis, spent the weekend at home and was shot by her outside a Hampstead pub. Ellis, the last woman to be hanged in England, was executed in 1955.

☐ Personal papers of Lord Thurlow (1731-1806), Lord Chancellor 1778-92, will be sold at Bonhams in Knightsbridge today. Many of the 86 documents relate to the American War of Independence and there have been fears that they may go to America. Lord Thurlow was a lawyer and politician who acted as an adviser to George III. The documents include 24 letters written by the king.

Guinness appeals open today

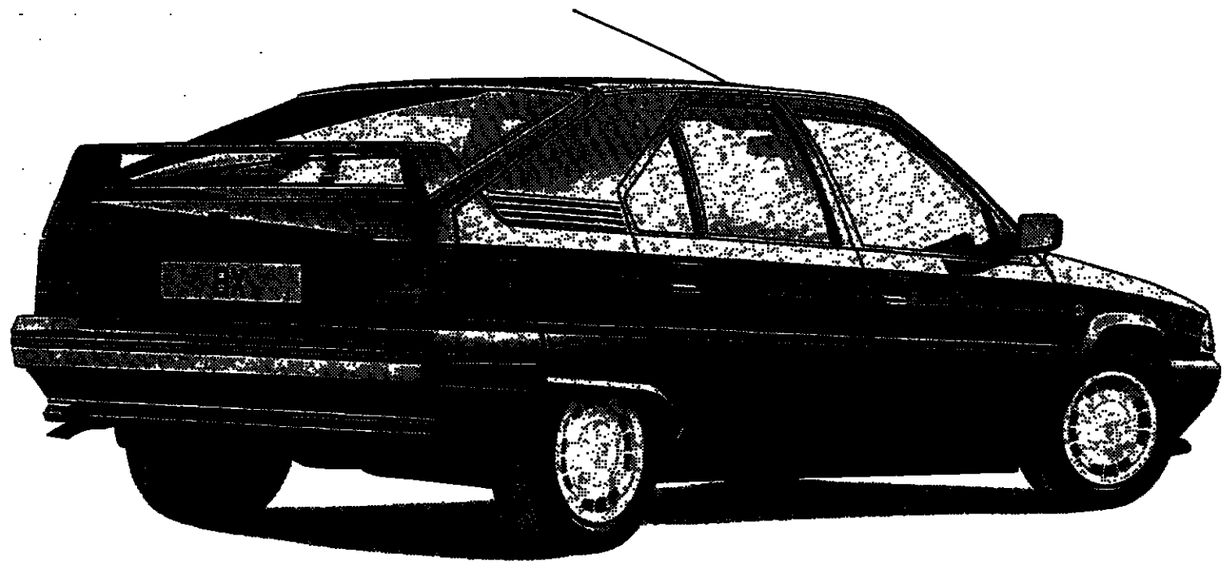
APPEALS by three of the four men convicted in the first Guinness trial last year open in London today (Paul Wilkinson writes). One of them, Gerald Ronson, head of the Heron Group, was released after just over half of his 12-month sentence.

The others are Ernest Saunders, Guinness's former chairman and chief executive, and Anthony Parnes, a stockbroker. They are appealing against sentence and conviction. The fourth defendant, Jack Lyons, the financier who was stripped of his knighthood last month, has withdrawn his appeal on medical grounds.

All were found guilty at Southwark Crown Court last August for their part in an illegal share support scheme that allowed Guinness to win a takeover battle for the Distillers group in 1987.

Saunders was jailed for five years, and Parnes for two-and-a-half years. Ronson was fined £5 million and sentenced to 12 months, and Lyons was fined £3 million.

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Tories' one-point poll lead would result in hung parliament

By ROBIN OAKLEY
POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Conservatives have regained the lead over Labour for the first time since the first quarter of 1989, according to the latest aggregate analysis of Mori polls, covering interviews with 8,000 people from January to March.

In the last quarter of 1990, during which John Major took over from Margaret Thatcher as leader of the Conservative party, the Labour lead dropped from 12 per cent to 6 per cent. In his first full quarter as prime minister, a period dominated initially by the Gulf war and then by the ditching of the poll tax, which has led to Labour accusations of "dithering", the Conservatives have wiped out the remaining Labour advantage and moved into a 1 percentage point lead. The Liberal Democrats, after steady progress throughout 1990, have continued to advance.

The Mori survey measured party support at: Conservatives 42 per cent, Labour 41 per cent and Liberal Democrats 13 per cent. Compared with the previous quarter, Labour is down four points, the Conservatives are up three and the Liberal Democrats up two. Perhaps the most significant finding is that there is not a single age, class or regional demographic group in which Labour is now registering the 8 per cent swing since the last general election which the party requires to win power in its own right. In the last quarter of 1990 Labour fell short of the 8 per cent target only among the over-5s, the upper middle classes and, narrowly, among women.

Despite the government's loss of the Ribble Valley by-election, a cool reception for the budget and the continuing uncertainties over the form of the poll tax replacement, the extent of Conservative recovery can be shown by contrasting the latest figures with those in the same quarter of 1990. A year ago Labour's overall support was 51 per cent to 34 per cent for the Conservatives. There has been a 9-point swing back to the government since then. The present levels of support compare with Conservatives 43 per cent, Labour 32 per cent and SDP/Liberal Alliance 23 per cent at the last general election. In October 1974, the last time Labour won a general election, the figures were Labour 40 per cent, Conservatives 37 per cent and Liberals 19 per cent.

The present figures, repeated nationally at a general election, would not result in a Conservative victory but would bring about a hung parliament. The Tories would be a handful of seats short of an overall majority.

Indications that the public is beginning to believe ministerial assurances about the improving state of the economy are visible in the latest economic optimism figures, one of the key indicators in terms of prime ministerial willingness to face the electors. In January, 51 per cent of those questioned believed that the economy would get worse over the next 12 months while 21 per cent believed it would improve, an economic optimism index figure of minus 30. In March, those who believed the economy would worsen over the next year were down to 37 per cent while those who believed it would improve were up to 36 per cent, giving a net economic optimism index of just minus 1. A month before the Tory election successes in 1983 and 1987 the index stood at plus 14, in both cases having improved rapidly from a minus figure in January.

While the economic optimum figures have improved, satisfaction with the government has moved from minus 8 in January to minus 22 in February and minus 32 in March, indicating that the government is getting little credit as yet for the turnaround and holding the extent of the Tory recovery.

The latest figures, after a sound but unspectacular performance in the Neath by-election, will give Labour strategists pause for thought. In one of the biggest polling exercises, the government has now improved its share of support in each of the last four quarters. So have the Liberal Democrats. In 1990 they improved their level of support from a lowly 5 per cent to 8, 10 and then 11 per cent and have now moved up further to 13 per cent (16 per cent in the March poll). Labour is failing to get the movement where the party needs it most. There has been a swing of 5 percentage points to Labour nationally since the last election but the swing in marginal seats alone is only 2.5 points.

Looking in detail at the latest three monthly figures, the Conservatives have shown a particular improvement in the 25-34 age group, which comprises almost a fifth of the electorate. In the last quarter of 1990, Labour had a 15-point lead in that group. That has been cut to just two points, with Labour down seven and the Conservatives up six. This could be attributable to the Tories' choice of a younger leader. But that is also the age group containing most first-time home-buyers. Almost two-thirds of them are buying a house on a mortgage. Labour has held its support best among men, the 55-64 age group and the C2 skilled working classes.

Labour has dropped six points in the DE manual workers' group, with the Liberal Democrats gaining 3 per cent and the Tories 2 per cent. The only demographic group in which the Conservatives failed to increase their support in the first quarter of 1991 was the over-55s, less concerned with mortgages and more with pensions and the health service.

The government appears to be enjoying some benefit from recent reductions in interest rates. In the first quarter of 1990 Labour moved into the lead for the first time ever among owner occupiers, even if it was only 1 per cent. The Tories regained the lead in this sector in the third quarter of 1990 and have now moved back to a lead among owner occupiers of 17 points, their best position since early in 1989.

A marked feature of British politics since the end of the Gulf war has been the series of personal attacks on John Major, the prime minister, by senior Labour figures. The Mori findings offer a tactical explanation: while Mr Major's personal ratings run well ahead of his party's standings, Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, is lagging behind his party, as confirmed in recent leaks from Labour's private polls.

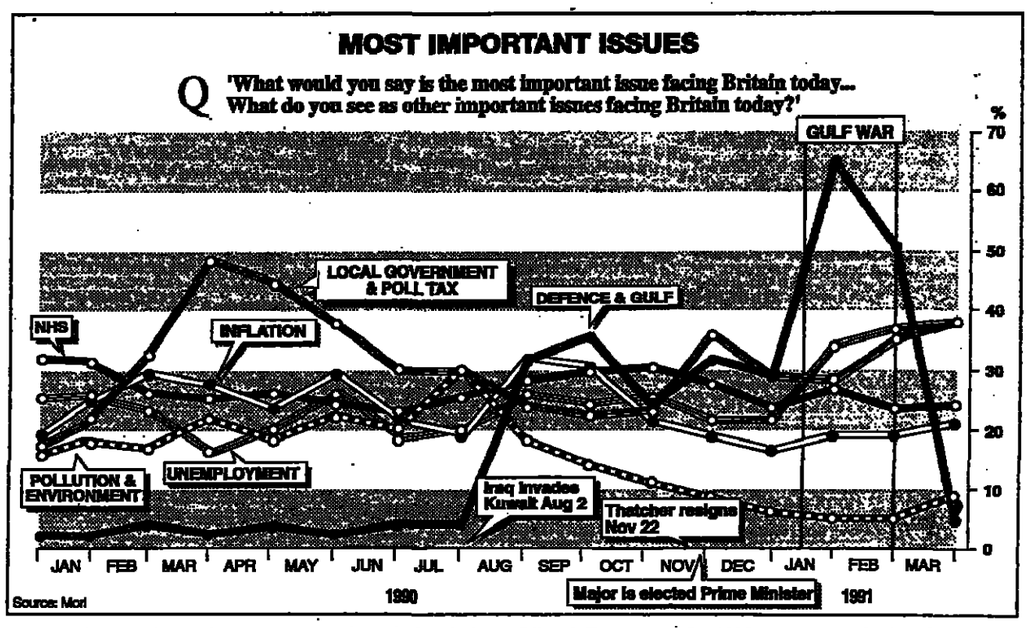
In March, 62 per cent of those questioned were dissatisfied with the government's performance and only 30 per cent satisfied. But 58 per cent were satisfied with Mr Major's performance as prime minister and only 27 per cent dissatisfied. The honeymoon effect is by no means all dissipated yet, should thoughts of a June election be revived. With Labour on 41 per cent, Mr Kinnock has 48 per cent dissatisfied with his performance and 39 per cent satisfied, a net rating of minus 9 to Mr Major's plus 31. Paddy Ashdown, the Liberal Democrat leader, has twice as many satisfied at 50 per cent as are dissatisfied (25 per cent), for a net rating of plus 25.

The Gulf war has nosedived swiftly out of public concern, although it can be expected to revive somewhat in the light of public concern over the fate of the Kurds. In January, defence and the Gulf war were rated one of the most important issues by 65 per cent of those questioned. That dropped in March to a mere 6 per cent, an indication that the government was wise not to seek profit from a rapid khaki election.

Local government and the poll tax (as a single subject) now lead public concerns at 38 per cent, with unemployment close behind on 36 per cent. That remains close to the February figure of 37 per cent, which was the highest since January 1989. The health service, generally a good subject for Labour, is in third place at 24 per cent, with prices and inflation fourth at 22 per cent.

☐ Mori interviewed 8,062 adults aged 18 plus, face to face, throughout Britain from January to March 1991. Data were weighted to represent the profile of the population.

©Mori/Times Newspapers



Q: How would you vote if there was a general election tomorrow?
If undecided or refused:

Q: Which party are you most inclined to support?

	Con %	Lab %	LibDem %	Grn %	Oth %	C lead +%
Jan 1991	46	45	9	2	2	+5
Feb 1991	44	41	11	1	3	+3
Mar 1991	40	40	16	2	2	0

Q: Are you satisfied or dissatisfied with the way . . .
- The Government is running the country?
- Mr Major is doing his job as Prime Minister?
- Mr Kinnock is doing his job as leader of the Labour Party?
- Mr Ashdown is doing his job as leader of the Democrats?

	Govt Sat %	Govt Dis %	Major Sat %	Major Dis %	Kinnock Sat %	Kinnock Dis %	Ashdown Sat %	Ashdown Dis %
Jan 1991	41	49	61	15	44	44	40	27
Feb 1991	34	56	63	19	43	43	45	24
Mar 1991	30	62	58	27	39	48	50	25

Q: Do you think that the general economic condition of the country will improve, stay the same, or get worse over the next 12 months?

	Improve %	Same %	Worse %	Net improve +%
Jan 1991	21	21	51	-30
Feb 1991	24	19	51	-27
Mar 1991	36	20	37	-1

	4 Qtr	Now	Ch	4 Qtr	Now	Ch	4 Qtr	Now	Ch
	All (100%)			Men (48%)			Women (52%)		
C	39	42	+3	39	41	+2	40	43	+3
Lab	45	41	-4	47	42	-5	44	39	-5
Lib Dem	11	13	+2	10	12	+2	12	14	+2
C lead	-6	+1		-8	-1		-4	+4	
	ABC1 (42%)			C2 (27%)			DE (31%)		
C	52	55	+3	35	37	+2	27	29	+2
Lab	30	27	-3	51	46	-5	61	55	-6
Lib Dem	13	14	+1	9	13	+4	9	12	+3
C lead	+22	+28		-16	-9		-34	-26	
	18-24 (15%)			25-34 (19%)			35-54 (32%)		
C	33	37	+4	35	41	+6	40	44	+4
Lab	51	45	-6	50	43	-7	43	38	-5
Lib Dem	7	9	+2	9	11	+2	12	13	+1
C lead	-18	-8		-15	-2		-3	+6	
	55+ (34%)			TU (23%)			Non TU (77%)		
C	43	43	0	29	32	+3	42	45	+3
Lab	42	40	-2	58	50	-8	42	38	-4
Lib Dem	12	15	+3	9	13	+4	11	13	+2
C lead	+1	+3		-27	-18		0	+7	
	North (35%)			Midlands (28%)			South (40%)		
C	29	31	+2	41	45	+4	47	51	+4
Lab	58	52	-4	47	38	-9	35	30	-5
Lib Dem	8	10	+2	9	14	+5	15	16	+1
C lead	-27	-21		-6	+7		+12	+21	
	Owner Occ (68%)			Council Ten (24%)			Private Ten (8%)		
C	47	50	+3	19	21	+2	32	32	0
Lab	38	33	-5	67	63	-4	46	42	-4
Lib Dem	12	13	+1	9	11	+2	11	15	+4
C lead	+9	+17		-48	-42		-14	-10	

Jobless total will show 24% rise over past year

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GOVERNMENT figures to be published this week will show that unemployment in Britain has risen by a quarter over the past year. The statistics are foreshadowed in an analysis by *The Times*, which shows that the rise in male unemployment is more than double that among women.

The analysis also shows that unemployment in the South-East, outside London, has risen by almost three-quarters since the national figure started to rise.

Seasonally adjusted unemployment, generally accepted as the best guide to unemployment, is expected to rise above two million when official figures for the number of people out of work and claiming benefit are published on Thursday, and that figure will provoke sharp protest from the Opposition. The figures for March will mark the twelfth consecutive month that unemployment has risen and show that the increase since March 1990 — when unemployment went up again after falling for the previous 44 months — is more than 393,000, or 24.5 per cent.

The *Times* analysis of the latest unemployment figures, up to February this year, shows a year-on-year rise in seasonally adjusted unemployment for men of 311,500, or 26.3 per cent, with unemployment among women rising by 51,700, or 12 per cent, making a total of 363,200, or 22.5 per cent.

In some regions, *The Times* computer analysis of data held by the government's employment department shows that unemployment over the period actually fell. In Scotland, for instance, unemployment year-on-year to February fell by 1.2 per cent, while in Northern Ireland it fell by 1 per cent. However, the increase in unemployment felt first in other areas has now spread fully across the country, and unemployment in these two regions is now rising.

Unemployment has risen most sharply in the past year in the South-East, confirming the view that this recession is markedly different from the downturn of the early 1980s, when manufacturing jobs mainly in the Midlands and the North were hit hardest. Over the period of the *Times* analysis, unemployment in the South-East rose by 174,000, or 51.3 per cent. The increase in unemployment in London was, at 37.2 per cent, much lower than in the rest of the South-East.

Taking London out of the figures, the rise in unemployment for the South-East amounted to more than 100,000 people, an increase of as much as 71.1 per cent. The figures show that the South-West and East Anglia were affected almost as badly as the whole of the South-East, with increases of 51.2 and 48.5 per cent respectively.

In the Midlands, where the recession of the early 1980s bit hardest, the year-on-year rises to February have been much lower, at 26.1 per cent in the East Midlands and 20.3 per cent in the West Midlands. However, in the later months of the period, unemployment rises in the Midlands have been accelerating. Apart from Scotland and Northern Ireland, the areas showing the lowest rises in unemployment are two areas that also suffered badly a decade ago: the North, with an increase of 7.9 per cent, and the North-West, with 10.8 per cent.

Figures revised, page 22

The power broker who took on both parties

By CRAIG SETON

FOR more than two years, one man has been a strong political force in Nottingham. John Peck has held the balance of power on the city council, first as its only Communist and, since last year, as a Green party councillor.

The Conservatives lost control of the city in 1988, when Labour won a by-election. As a result, the two parties each had 27 seats and Mr Peck, aged 68, a committed Marxist who had won his seat from the Tories the previous year, became the council's power broker. He used his casting vote to give Labour the leadership of the council, but said that he would vote on issues on merit.

Labour still has control through its majority on committees, but Mr Peck has frequently denied the party support on individual matters and voted with the Tories when it suited him. He won his seat as a Communist in the former mining area of Bulwell in 1987, and will defend his majority of 48 on May 2, this time as a Green candidate facing Labour and Tory opponents.

Labour predicts that it will make several gains from the Tories and take control of the council without Mr Peck, who expects his majority to increase. This election will be his forty-seventh in more than 40 years. The son of a Scunthorpe steelworker, Mr Peck won the Distinquished Flying Cross as a bomber pilot during the second world war. He was in the Communist party all his adult life, first as a full-time organiser in the East Midlands and as a national executive member, but became disillusioned and resigned last year before joining the Greens.

He is also a long-time member of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament and took part in the Aldermaston marches. Mr Peck has been prominent in the Royal British Legion and joined the Friends of the Earth 20 years ago.

A mild-mannered man, he chuckled when he recalled the by-election the Tories lost, thus giving him the balance of power and a chance to promote the community politics he favours. "The Tories put out a leaflet with a hammer and sickle. They said a vote for Labour would put the whole city in the hands of the Communists.

"At that time I was fighting to save 250 allotments from development and helping market traders who were facing rent increases. It hardly married with the terrible image of me that was being painted and turned out to be counter-productive."

He believes his 1987 victory in Bulwell was due to his role in local affairs, especially tenants' groups, rather than his communism. He now meets the Labour group regularly, but said that, while in the past year he had voted 12 times with Labour, he had voted six times with the Conservatives.

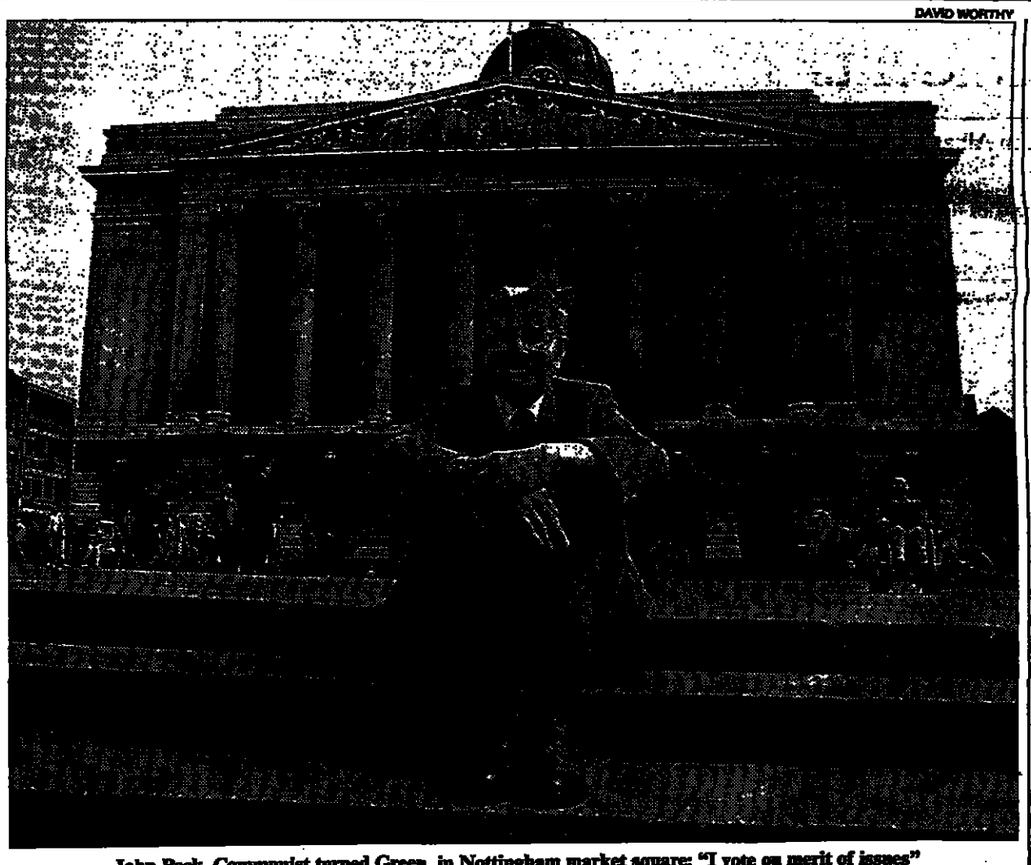
"On several occasions I have trodden on Labour's toes and the Tories have approached me on individual issues. I think Labour will do *their damnedest to get me out.* I do not want either side to have a majority. It is better for the city."

Mr Peck joined the Greens to pursue his interest in the environment, although he remains a socialist. The Greens are fielding 12 candidates in Nottingham in the local elections, expected to be dominated by the poll tax.

The Labour group insists that, although Mr Peck holds the balance of power, it has achieved 98 per cent of its council objectives. Betty Higgins, its leader, said his influence had been exaggerated.

Bill Bradbury, the Tory group's leader, said: "He put Labour in power and has supported a higher than necessary community charge and a policy to close museums, while spending money on a women's centre."

DAVID WORTHY



John Peck, Communist turned Green, in Nottingham market square: "I vote on merit of issues"

Census boycott could hit new tax

By DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

THE government's *plan to replace the community* charge with a property tax may be jeopardised if large numbers of people refuse to complete their census forms next weekend, ministers have been warned.

People throughout Britain will be required to fill out their 1991 census returns on Sunday, but there are growing fears that opposition to the poll tax may lead some people to boycott the census.

Census information is used by the environment department to measure the social need in different parts of the country for the purpose of allocating government grants to councils.

The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (Cipfa), the professional body for public-sector accountants, says that census information is "the single most important" influence in the setting of council spending assessments, which are used in the charge-capping process.

Writing in Cipfa's journal, *Public Finance and Accountancy*, Jonathan McLeod, its assistant editor, said there was already evidence that opposition to the poll tax was making people less willing to fill in official forms. A boycott could affect the fair distribution of grants significantly.

"Resistance to the community charge, in terms of unwillingness to register, has been highest in deprived urban areas," he said.

"If this pattern is carried through into census coverage, *then the true extent of the* greatest social need will not be gauged by the survey and local authorities serving poorer areas will find themselves with inadequate grant."

Rita Hale, Cipfa's head of local government, accused the government of underplaying the significance of local taxation. She said ministers had been suggesting that the poll tax raised only 11 per cent of council expenditure.

But this figure was misleading because it was based on a spending total that included items like housing, which were self-financing. In reality, the poll tax raised 22 per cent of general council spending.

"Before anyone goes too far down the road in arguing that local tax is too small to be worth the trouble it causes, perhaps we ought to make sure that everyone is using the right benchmarks," she said.

Labour council faces leadership ultimatum



Gould: issuing orders to 27 Lambeth councillors

By PETER VICTOR

TWENTY-SEVEN Lambeth Labour councillors will file into an office at the Union of Communication Workers' building in Clapham, south London, tonight. There they will be told to select a new leadership before they leave, or join the 13 other members of the ruling Labour group who have been suspended and now face discipline and possible expulsion from the national party.

Giving the orders will be a trio from "head office", led by Joyce Gould, the Labour party's national organiser. The trio was responsible for the suspension of the 13, including Joan Twelves, the council leader. The likely leadership contenders are thought to be Anna Tapsell, a former parliamentary candidate for Streatham, south London, and Steve Whaley.

The meeting is expected to last some time and the national party officers will be left in no doubt that its legality is deemed questionable by some of the 27. Many will be reluctant to select a leader with their annual meeting — at which leadership is normally decided — only a fortnight away.

Whoever becomes leader of the south London council faces a tough task. Tonight's meeting is the result of the national Labour party's exasperation at the behaviour of Lambeth's leadership. High rates, before rate-capping, were followed by big poll tax bills, before charge-capping. Invitations to Sinn Fein councillors, flying the Pan African Congress flag from the town hall, and the renaming of public parks and buildings after South African and Asian politicians were meat and drink to opposition party campaigners.

At the same time, refuse collection, social services and housing repairs deteriorated. Thousands of council properties were squatted in. Applications to transfer out of the worst housing took years, as priority was given to homeless families. Collection of rates, rent and, latterly, poll tax was so poor that Tory opposition leader Hugh Jones says the council is owed about £130 million — £700 for each person in the borough. About half is expected to be collected eventually. At least £30 million is being written off this year.

Ms Twelves came to power in May 1989, vowing to support campaigns against the poll tax. She voted against the use of bailiffs to collect the tax. The final straw for the Labour party came on February 1, when the council passed a motion condemning British involvement in the Gulf war and "pro-war hysteria" as "blatant racism", while Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, publicly supported the allied effort. Ms Twelves and her fellow councillors were suspended on March 27. A dossier of charges against them was compiled by the party's national executive.

هكذا من الأصل

Yeltsin's faction no longer gives priority to ousting Gorbachev

From BRUCE CLARK IN MOSCOW AND ROBERT SEELY IN KIEV

BORIS Yeltsin, the Russian leader, and some of his radical supporters in the Democratic Russia movement made clear at the weekend that their current priority is not to topple President Gorbachev but to draw him into talks on the transfer of power to the republics.

The conciliatory signals from the Yeltsin camp are the latest indication that the central authorities under Mr Gorbachev, and the radical movement loyal to the Russian leader, are groping towards dialogue, if not compromise, in the face of a deepening economic and social crisis. Mr Yeltsin, who two months ago made a dramatic demand for the Soviet leader's resignation, said the country faced collapse unless every political force, including the organisers of a coal strike, were invited to round-table talks.

"Sitting at that round table should be Gorbachev, Yeltsin, and other representatives of the republics," the Russian leader told Radio Russia in an interview. "Does this question need to be resolved somehow?" he asked. "Yes, it does. Otherwise the country will disintegrate."

A separate call for renewed emphasis on constitutional change rather than the toppling of Mr Gorbachev came from Yuri Afanasyev, one of the joint presidents of Democratic Russia and a leading tactician of the street protest movement. In a speech to a meeting of the organisation, Professor Afanasyev, a radical historian, pointed out that some of the movement's most radical figures had abandoned calls for the Soviet president to step down, leaving old-guard Communists as the main advocates of a change at the top.

While Democratic Russia should still campaign for Mr Gorbachev's resignation, it should not corner him or exclude the possibility that he might remain at the helm of a much looser Soviet Federation, Professor Afanasyev said. Mr Gorbachev "could well head the Federation Council after its functions have been thoroughly revamped", he added, referring to the organisation which groups leaders of the 15 republics and which radical politicians and leaders of the coalminers want to be the top of the Soviet power structure.

In Kiev, Belorussia's strike leaders said they had given the republican government ten days to meet economic and political demands or face a second general strike. Negotiations on their list of 15 demands, including the dissolution of the republic's supreme soviet and democratic elections, begin in earnest today after last week's widespread strikes.

A Minsk workers' leader, Grigori Gvosdik, said: "The situation is that a general strike could be called this week. We are giving the government no more than ten days. If they are merely buying time we will carry out a political strike."

The spokesman for the strikers in the Donbass region, Stepan Kruzhko, added: "Today and tomorrow we are concerned with Donetsk city's strike, although we have been and will be discussing union-wide action, and a union-wide strike is possible."

In an authoritative front-page commentary on Saturday, *Izvestia* added its voice to calls for round-table talks, saying that neither the deeply unpopular cabinet of Valentin Pavlov, the prime minister, nor Mr Yeltsin could solve the Soviet crisis on their own. The newspaper said many radicals realised that the country's 16 million Communists could not be excluded from the political process while, within the Communist party itself, the recent emergence of a liberal faction called "Communists for Democracy" was an encouraging sign.

Such hints of reconciliation offered "the possibility of a cautious, difficult movement away from mindless, ill-conceived confrontation, which is offensive to a people and a country standing on the brink of catastrophe", it said. These and other comments have fuelled speculation about the revival of the "centre-left".



Afanasyev: president must not be cornered



Signoras' signal: Rosa Russo Jervolino, left, the Italian social affairs minister, and Margherita Boniver, minister for the newly created immigration affairs ministry, showing their delight as they attended a ceremony to swear in the newly appointed government of Giulio Andreotti, the Christian Democrat prime minister. But in an unexpected move, the small Republican party, a coalition partner, boycotted the weekend event to express its anger at the cabinet posts it received (AP reports from Rome). They will decide today whether to support the coalition.

Touch of class for east Berlin races

From ANNE MCELVOY IN BERLIN

EAST Berlin punters in stone-washed jeans mingled with the haute couture of west Germany's racing elite yesterday, as Hoppegarten race course began its climb back to former glory with the start of the first new season since unification.

Thirty-six thousand spectators turned out for a day at the races and cheered Lester Piggott as guest of honour, coming in third in the main race of the day on the east German horse Canaletto. "What could I do," said a frustrated Mr Piggott, who had also finished low down the field in his other races on east German horses. "They just didn't run fast enough."

Situated on the eastern edge of Berlin, the course was the regular haunt of the dwindling band of East German racing faithful. Unification has brought new hope to the sport of kings. Previously East German jockeys could ride only in collectives against other teams – a rule imposed because the hardline leader Walter Ulbricht considered horse racing an ideologically dubious sport.

For Artur Boehlke, the course director, yesterday was the first step towards realising a hope cherished through years of communist neglect. After succeeding the ousted communist management, he is cheerful about Hoppegarten's prospects. "I want to put it back alongside Newmarket and Longchamps in the racing calendar," he said.

Frequented by Prussian nobility under the Kaiser and later by the nazi elite, Hoppegarten fell into decline after the war. Its 1,500-yard sweep of grandstands were in crumbling disarray and have been hastily reconstructed. Yesterday's racing featured mainly east German jockeys and horses, both struggling to survive in a newly competitive world.

Kremlin's hard test in Tokyo

Tokyo – President Gorbachev arrives in Japan tomorrow, the first Soviet leader to visit the country, hoping to sign several agreements covering trade, environmental protection, aid for his perestroika reforms, and help for victims of the Cherbobyl accident (Joanna Pitman writes).

But most Japanese feel Mr Gorbachev is not someone with whom they are prepared to do business. As a senior official at the Japan Development Bank said recently, "the Soviet Union is probably the most hated country for the Japanese".

Japan, as the world's mightiest economic superpower, views the collapsed Soviet economy with disdain. "He may have won a Nobel prize but but he's no prize-winner as an economist," said a finance ministry official.

Woman chosen

Berlin – The Treuhand Agency privatising east Germany's state companies has named Birgit Breuel, a former Christian Democrat economics minister in Lower Saxony and free-market enthusiast, as its new president. She succeeds Detlev Rohwedder, killed by the Red Army Faction two weeks ago.

Full circle

Zernez, Switzerland – The bearded vulture is to return to the Swiss Alps in June, brought back a century after it was wiped out in the region by farmers who believed it was devouring lambs and carrying off toddlers. The birds, which can have a wingspread of nine feet, mostly live off carcasses and carrion. *(AFP)*

Albania's death strip regime for caged dissidents

Nicholas Bethell, in Albania at the invitation of the opposition Democratic party for the recent elections, describes the conditions he found in a labour camp

OUR arrival at Bardhor labour camp caused great excitement and nearly a tragedy. It was the first time that the 318 prisoners had seen foreign visitors. They crowded in the central area, shouting the opposition slogan "Freedom and democracy", pressing against the wire, each man anxious for the chance to tell his sad story.

The jail was a shabby version of a second world war PoW camp, complete with armed guards, arc lights and two wire fences separated by a "death strip". Any prisoner entering the strip may be shot without warning.

We tried to calm them down, but one man started climbing the wire fence in full view of everyone. We were later told that he was mentally unstable. A soldier pointed his rifle and made as if to shoot him, until Edmond Caja, the director of prisons, intervened. "You see how tolerant we are," said Mr Caja. "In any other country, a prisoner would have been shot for trying to escape." He seemed genuinely amazed when I told him that in Western prisons guards do not carry firearms.

Tirana wants money from the EC and claims to have cleaned up its human rights record

We soon discovered how deep this tension ran. On March 8, there was an uprising in the prison in which one man, Mark Kola, was shot dead, and three others were seriously wounded. This information was passed to me in a letter by one of the prisoners, but only translated after we had left.

The prisoner writes: "At around 1am I was awakened by the sound of shots and I jumped out of bed. My first thought was that people had come from Kavaja and Durres to set us free and that the guards were resisting us. We joined the rush towards the gate and eventually the crowd succeeded in unlocking and opening it. All that was needed was for someone to take the first step. The rest would have followed and there would have been no going back.

"Then several hundred shots rang out. People shouted to the soldiers not to shoot their brothers, but to give them weapons to defend themselves. The shooting forced the crowd to retreat. We learnt that four people had been shot and that one was dead."

The incident was an example of the confusion that Albania, whose new parliament sits for the first time today, faces as it tries to move away from inglorious isolation to the rest of Europe's gentler rules of behaviour. Amnesty International used to despair of the place.

There was simply no way of getting into the country. Exhausted swimmers who made it across the Strait of Otranto to Corfu were almost the only source of information. The news they gave was of a police state that made the Soviet Union, seem by comparison a paradise of liberalism.

This month, while the elections were on and foreigners allowed in, I met Edi Lubonja, a former director of Albanian television who had served 17 years in prison for "revisionism", and his son Fatos, who had served 19 years for being Edi's son. There are still many thousands of such cases. I was also one of the first foreigners to be allowed to visit Albanian labour camp facilities, to check the claim that all political prisoners have been set free. Albania wants money from the European Community and claims to have cleaned up its human rights record.

People tell of a police state making the Soviet Union seem a paradise of liberalism

But it still jails political opponents, and the labour camp system is out of tune with European standards.

Lord Bethell is MEP for London North-West.

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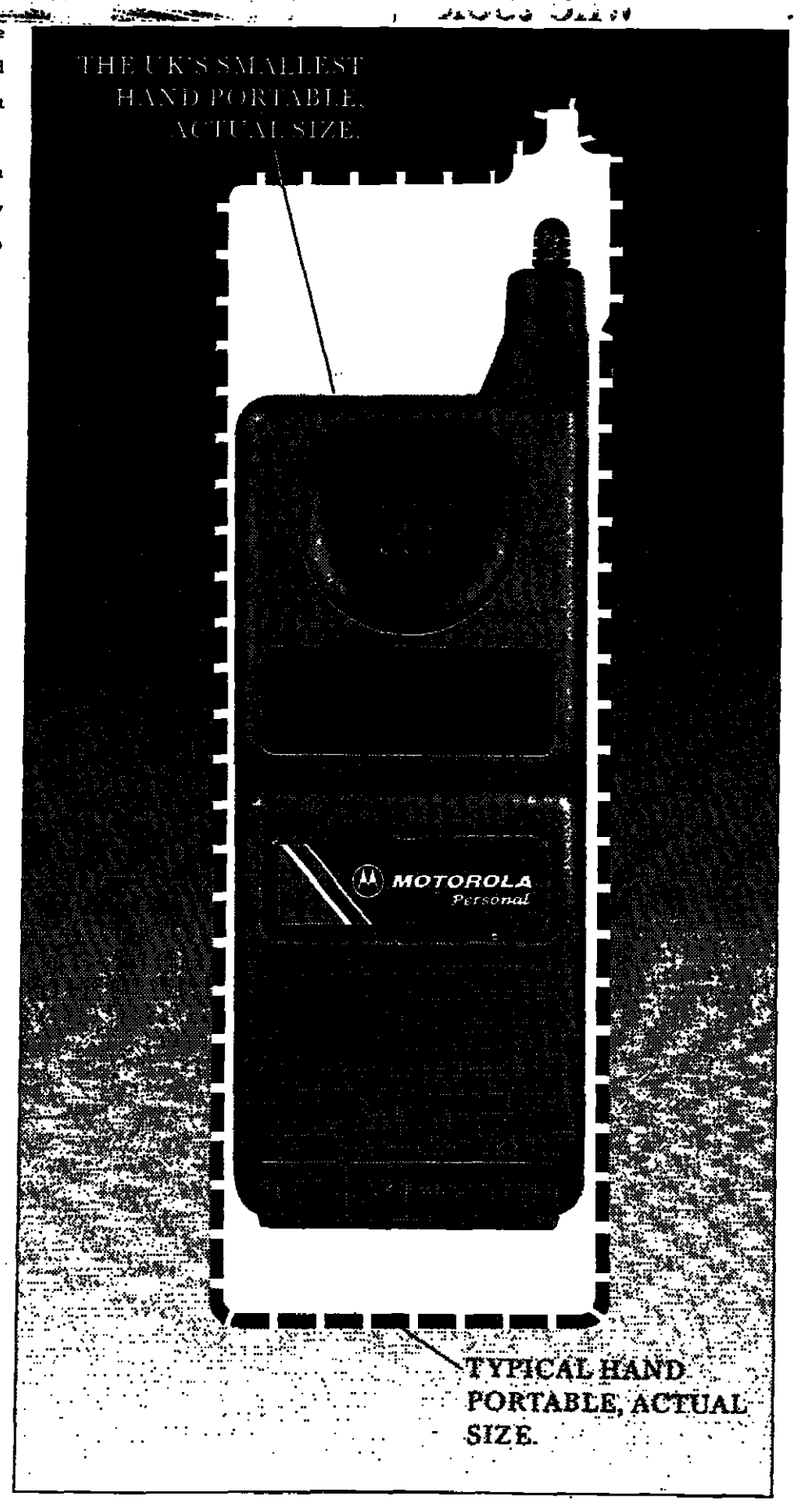
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IRAN

Lack of aid and scale of refugee tragedy overwhelm Tehran

From EDWARD GORMAN IN SAR DASHT, IRAN
AND JAMIE DETTMER IN SAFWAN

MILLIONS of Kurdish refugees on the Iran-Iraq border face a rapidly deteriorating predicament. Doctors in the frontier town of Sar Dasht fear that epidemics of typhoid and cholera will kill the Kurds in their hundreds, while many more will die of starvation and cold.

While Iran copes with twice as many refugees as do the Turks, it has yet to receive substantial Western aid. The international relief effort continues to focus on Turkey. One Western diplomat, who visited the border, was quoted in Tehran yesterday as saying that an operation the size of the post-second world war Berlin airlift needs to be mounted by Western governments to help the Kurds on the Iraqi frontier.

Officials of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees admitted that they had been taken by surprise by the scale of the problem. They had anticipated an influx of only about 35,000 people. Official Iranian estimates, regarded by Western diplomats as realistic, have put the number at already more than a million, with many more still on their way.

While the UN officials said a big relief effort was under way to help Iran, only a few planes were believed so far to have arrived. They hope that about 40 flights this week will bring urgently needed tents and cooking stoves and will start to deliver more than a million blankets. They also expect lorries to ferry food from Turkey under a relief effort organised by the World Food Programme.



Tehran is doing its best to cope with the huge influx of people, distributing bread and apples to refugees at the border and flying emergency supplies by helicopter into Iraq to help stranded Kurds. The Iranians are, however, overwhelmed by the scale of the tragedy.

In Sar Dasht, with a population of 20,000, French doctors estimate that there could be as many as 200,000 Kurds waiting for help to arrive. The town is overflowing with people. They are crammed into shops, mosques, public buildings and the local cinema. Thousands more are sleeping in the open. In a mosque next to the town square about 1,200 occupants, mostly women and young children, are waiting to be fed. Women with babies dying of hunger in their arms plead for milk and food amid the din of crying toddlers.

Jean-Paul Dixmeras, head of an 11-man Médecins sans Frontières team which arrived in Sar Dasht four days ago, said nearly all those under the age of five who had crossed the border were suffering from exposure and from intestinal diseases. Many had died.

At Safwan, in southern Iraq, American army officers stationed at the refugee camp are increasingly concerned at the lack of on-the-ground preparation by UN officials before the impending American withdrawal. The only local inspection of the refugee problem in southern Iraq by UN officials came on Friday, when three representatives of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees made an hour-long visit.

A US military doctor in charge of the medical unit in Safwan complained that no officials of the UN or the International Red Cross had been in touch with him. An Australian diplomat said that he was surprised by the lack of preparation. "It is one of the strangest handovers I have ever seen," he said. "I cannot understand why the UN has not been in much more evidence before taking up its monitoring role."

Fear is also growing in the US-controlled refugee camp and the Red Crescent-run camp at nearby Abdaly as the American pull-out approaches. Refugees have only just realised that the UN has not as yet agreed to take on the running of the camps. As it is understood here, the High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Red Cross will be responsible for general humanitarian aid along the border, but there is no commitment to ensuring the camps' continued existence. About 30,000 refugees are housed in the Safwan and Abdaly camps. Responsibility for most civilian affairs on the Iraqi side of the border reverts to Baghdad on the withdrawal.

Captain John Maxwell, the public health officer at the Safwan camp, said: "I can only tell the refugees the truth: we don't know what will happen when we leave."

At the weekend thousands of refugees staged demonstrations calling on the Americans to maintain a military presence in southern Iraq. The refugees, who dismiss the idea that the UN can protect them from President Saddam Hussein, said they would force their way into Kuwait whether they had permission or not.

Nowhere to go, page 14

Appeal to world for funds

From OUR CORRESPONDENT IN NICOSIA

IRAN yesterday made an urgent appeal to the world to help it feed and house more than a million Iraqi refugees who have fled to the country's border. Tehran said another 500,000 people were expected, propelled into flight by continued fighting in northern and southern Iraq.

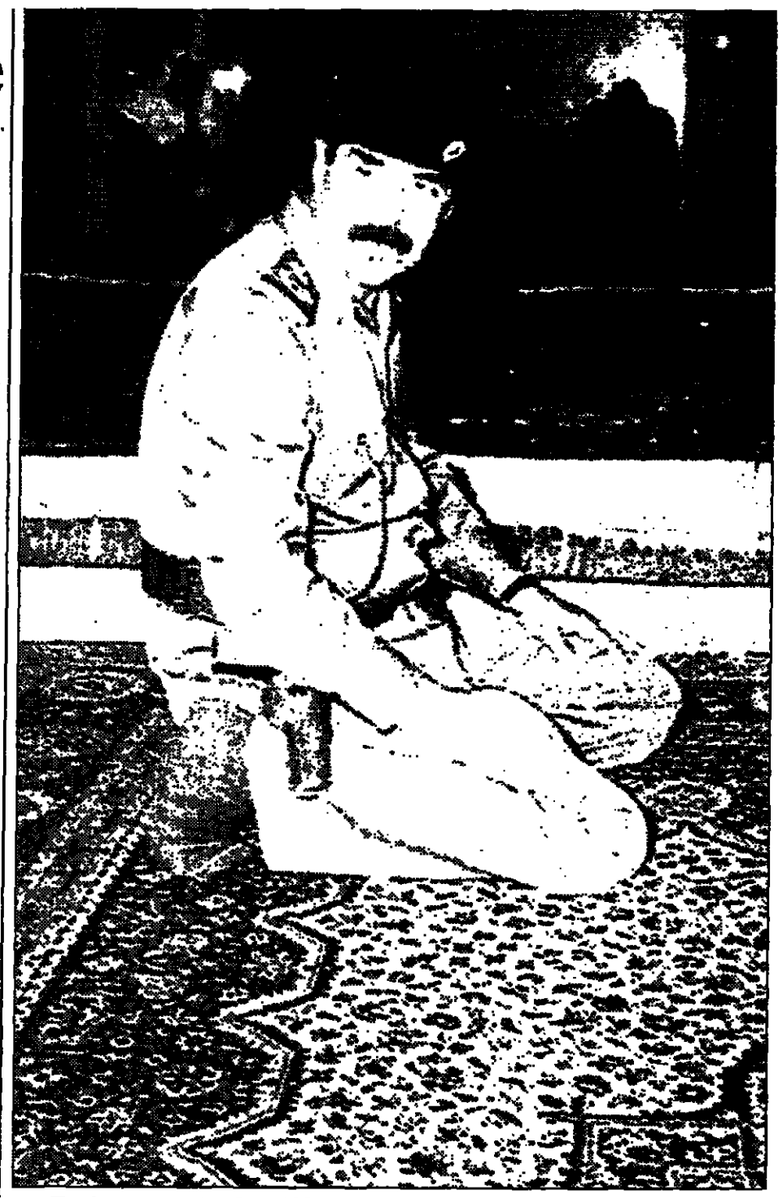
Kurdish rebels said Iraqi government forces were still attacking their positions and refugee convoys north of the 36th parallel, drawn by Washington last week in case military activity endangered the refugee effort. They urged the United Nations to protect Iraqi civilians. Kurdish spokesmen accused President Bush of indulging in "gesture politics" by refusing to act on his warning to Baghdad.

"Hundreds of refugees were killed or wounded during the last three days in mountains or hills overlooking Sulaymaniyah, and on routes to Turkey, by the fire of Saddam's helicopters, tanks and artillery," a spokesman for the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan said in Damascus.

The uprising against Saddam's rule has flared again in southern Iraq, according to Shia groups, whose claims could not be verified. Fifteen members of Saddam's Republican Guard were killed at the weekend in fighting in Basra, said the Islamic Action Organisation, a coalition of Shia groups. Tehran Radio said Iraqi forces had kidnapped children in Basra to frighten people into submission.

"The refugees have left their hearths and homes, their homeland, and have come to partake of our hospitality and selflessness," said Tehran Radio, including the Iranian people in its address to the world. "Words cannot express the depth of this disaster. Please help the Iraqi refugees," it said. Iranian officials say catering for the refugees is costing Tehran $10 million (£5.6 million) a day.

The plea came as Sadoka Ogata, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, admitted the scale of the problem had been drastically underestimated. In Tehran to assess the needs of the refugees, she said the organisation had anticipated an exodus of just 35,000 refugees after the Gulf war. She said Iran had done "all it could", and outside help was desperately needed to evacuate 500,000 Kurds trapped inside northern Iraq with little food or shelter.



Turning to prayer: Saddam visiting a mosque during a surprise visit at the weekend to Arbil in the Kurdish region of Iraq, one of his few public appearances since the Gulf war

TURKEY

US marines arrive at camp to help in relief

From MICHAEL BINYON IN ANKARA

A HUNDRED American marines arrived yesterday at Isikveren camp near Sirnak, where Turkish soldiers opened fire on Saturday when thousands of desperate Kurdish refugees tried to storm an army post and push on down the mountain.

The marines landed yesterday morning at Iskanderun, the big Turkish naval base near the Syrian border, and went straight to the Iraqi border. They will help Turkey set up proper organisation and food distribution in the filthy, overcrowded camp. Their arrival marks the start of a big American military rescue operation, involving thousands of troops who will come to Turkey in the next day or two to organise a helicopter airlift of food and emergency relief.

With the agreement of the Turkish government, they will start setting up proper camps and settlements in north Iraq, in the exclusion zone above the 36th parallel where Washington has warned Baghdad that Iraqi aircraft will be shot down. The situation in Isikveren, Cukurca and other camps was deteriorating quickly over the weekend, as more people died from cold, hunger and disease and tension grew between the refugees and Turkish soldiers who were trying to prevent them moving into nearby towns and villages.

At Isikveren about 2,000 people ignored warning shots which were fired first into the air and then at their feet as they attempted to break out of the camp.

An army officer said that after 13 days the refugees were no longer afraid, but he said his men were exhausted and edgy.

There were reports elsewhere of shooting incidents in which at least six people were killed when they tried to storm the occasional relief lorries bringing food and shelter.

American, French and British planes continued dropping supplies on the Iraqi side of the border at the weekend. But in several tragic accidents parachutes failed to open, and at least three people were crushed to death by heavy packages falling to the ground. One Kurd remarked bitterly that having escaped the bombs and guns of President Saddam Hussein's forces, his people did not expect to be killed by Americans bombing them with food aid in the mountains.

On the ground the relief programme gathered pace at the weekend with the arrival of American and British helicopters to ferry aid directly to the mountaintop from the huge supplies building up at the main international relief centre in Diyarbakir.



Fighting for food: Turkish soldiers trying to push back Kurdish refugees desperate to breach distribution lines for emergency supplies of bread and blankets in the border village of Cukurca at the weekend

IRAQ

Baghdad tells Kurds not to fear revenge

From ADAM KELLIHER IN ARBIL, IRAQ

IF THE Kurdish multitudes huddled in Iran and Turkey are to be lured back into Iraq, they will have to trust the likes of Bahaa al-Din Ahmad, one of many senior officials now reimposing the rule of President Saddam Hussein in northern Iraq.

The government's message to woo the Kurds is: thousands of Iranians started the rebellion and then terrified the populace into fleeing, but they should now return because Baghdad has no plans of revenge. "The civil unrest was just another phase in the big conspiracy against Iraq," said Mr Ahmad, the president of Arbil's legislative committee.

Saddam also offered a conciliatory message during a tour to Arbil at the weekend, saying there would be no guarantees for murderers, rapists and thieves, but other Kurds "should fear nothing at all". "The past is the past, and let us start again," the president said in an address in the city, 230 miles north of Baghdad, during one of his few trips outside the capital since the Gulf war began.

His promises may be verified by the United Nations. Eric Suy, a representative for Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN secretary-general, arrived yesterday and started meetings with Sadoun Hammadi, the prime minister, Ahmad Hussein al-Khodair, the foreign minister, and Hamad Youssef Hammadi, the culture and information minister. Mr Suy said he discussed "establishing some form of a UN presence in the difficult areas in the north and south". Another UN delegation in charge of monitoring the Kuwaiti-Iraqi ceasefire line was scheduled to arrive today.

Although the government has offered an amnesty for Kurds to return, after which they could be branded as saboteurs, Baghdad has no mood of leniency towards captured insurgents. "People who are not going to be forgiven are those who killed, who stole, who raped," said Jafar Abdul Karim Barzanachi, the president of Arbil's executive committee.

Mr Ahmad said Iraqi authorities had captured an unspecified number of Iranians, who were being treated as prisoners of war. Iraqi Kurds implicated in the rebellion were "under the jurisdiction of the central government".

This has not encouraged many of the hundreds of thousands of refugees in Iran and Turkey to return, but some Kurds have accepted the government's pardon and about 400 arrived on Saturday in a convoy of tractors, buses and dilapidated cars.

Some of the returnees had sought sanctuary around Salahuddin, about 50 miles from Arbil, but none had come from over the border. "There are lots wanting to come back," said Khalid Faqih Hammad, a farmer, whose car was packed with 13 people, five in the boot. "Some are waiting for transport but many roads are blocked."

Officials would not give any casualty estimates but one resident said the uprising claimed about 5,000 lives, and that some 300 people wounded lay in Arbil's four main hospitals. Evidence of the fighting was widespread, with many buildings gutted and torched vehicles littering the roadway.

Nixon would kill Saddam

New York — Richard Nixon would order the assassination of President Saddam Hussein if he were still in the White House, according to the transcript of a television interview broadcast yesterday. In it, the former American president also said President Gorbachev might have missed his chance to change the Soviet Union.

Mr Nixon, aged 78, called Saddam "an international menace" who would be a "threat to peace and stability in the area" within five years if he stayed in power. "If I could find a way to get him out of there, even putting a contract out on him, if the CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) still did that sort of a thing, assuming it ever did, I would be for it," he said. *(Reuter)*



Major-General Gunther Greindl, above, the Austrian commander of the United Nations peacekeeping force that will police the Kuwait-Iraq border, on his arrival in Kuwait City.

Mountain raid

Isikveren — A gendarme stationed near here said he had taken part in an armed raid on the guerrilla headquarters of the Kurdish Workers' Party in Iraq. He said that in the raid 30 guerrillas were killed, mainly Turkish Kurds.

Euro-MP finds plight worse than Gaza Strip

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN ANKARA

PAUL Howell, a leading Conservative member of the European Parliament, gave a warning yesterday that inaction over the Kurds could make their plight "a thousand times worse" than that of the Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip.

Mr Howell, Conservative MEP for Norfolk, who is in Ankara as spokesman of the European Democratic Group, representing British and Danish members of the European Parliament, was speaking at the start of a fact-finding mission to refugee areas in Turkey and northern Iraq, to provide a firsthand report to the parliament when it debates refugees on Thursday.

He is visiting refugee areas at the invitation of the umbrella Patriotic Union of Kurdistan. Thursday's debate in Strasbourg is expected to be the focus for efforts to increase Europe's commitment to the Kurds and to boost the pledge of £120 million already made for immediate relief.

KUWAIT

Soldier-rapists lurk at cathedral's gates

From JAMIE DETTMER IN KUWAIT CITY

THE call to prayer is secret here. No bells are allowed to summon the faithful to worship. The cathedral has no cross on its roof.

Despite the discretion, St Patrick's Roman Catholic cathedral in Kuwait City is barely tolerated by the local Muslim population. Since it was built in the 1950s, after British and American lobbying, the cathedral has been on the verge of closure several times, and has been saved only by the last-minute intervention of the emir.

Six priests attached to St Patrick's, the only cathedral in the Gulf, face an even greater challenge now as they attempt to defend their female parishioners from rape and sexual abuse. Their efforts have not been helped by the Kuwaiti authorities, who seem unconcerned about the recent outbreak in Kuwait of rapes of foreign women.

In the past few weeks, Kuwaiti officers and soldiers have attempted to abduct parishioners on their way to and from services. "They drive around outside and wait at the gates, menacing Filipinas and Indian women," said Father Angelo. "They mainly come on Fridays and Sundays, when they know there will be a lot of women around."

Soldiers demand to see the identity papers of the women, and try to force them into their cars. One Filipina, identified only as Linda, said the soldiers claimed that the papers were out of date.

"They say they want to sleep with us for five minutes. They say we are prostitutes," Linda said.

Dozens of the foreign women mainly hospital cleaners and nurses, are already victims of rape, having been abused at work and in their homes by ill-disciplined Kuwaiti soldiers. More than 50 Filipinas have been raped in the last few weeks, according to Father Angelo.

"They come here seeking our help, and then have to run a gauntlet of Kuwaitis outside. The other day a soldier walked through the gates and said to me: 'Get me a woman.'

"I felt like hitting him, but he had a gun on him. I smiled, and he said I was laughing at him. His friends spoke to him saying I was a priest. They eventually walked off," said Father Angelo.

The priests have complained to both senior Kuwaiti officers, and the United States embassy, but nothing has been done so far to stop the soldiers assaulting and harassing women outside the cathedral.

The rapes of Filipinas and Indian women are not even investigated by the authorities when complaints are lodged at police stations. In at least one case, women have been beaten up by police officers for daring to accuse Kuwaitis.

Father Angelo, aged 34, is aware of the danger of supporting his parishioners. "The cathedral's position is perilous, and I wouldn't be surprised if I get arrested for talking to you. I tell you, it is worse now than when the Iraqis were here. They just wanted to put up an anti-aircraft gun in the yard.

"I wonder why this is happening. In any army you get a few bad apples, but here it is not just a few isolated cases. I think they feel they can rape Filipinas and Indian women with immunity because their governments are not as strong as, say, the British and American governments," Father Angelo said.

The priests at the cathedral are particularly anxious about the plight of Sri Lankan women who have been abused, as for them rape is a social stigma. They said these women in Kuwait tended to come from poor and ignorant families, and they feared that their loss of virginity would not be forgiven by relatives. This meant they avoided telling people about any attacks, and suffered in silence.

ISRAEL

Shamir heads for London with Palestinian formula

From RICHARD BEESTON IN JERUSALEM

YITZHAK Shamir, the Israeli prime minister, flew to London last night before what could be crucial talks with European leaders this week. Before leaving Tel Aviv, he said a a possible solution to the Palestinian question might be to create "Palestinian ministries" in the occupied territories which would administer all aspects of government, except matters of security and foreign affairs.

Mr Shamir said in an interview published in yesterday's *al-Hamishmar*, the Hebrew daily newspaper, that he was prepared to give the 1.75 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza Strip more than autonomy but less than statehood.

The proposal, an apparent elaboration on his peace plan last May, which envisaged elections in the occupied territories, would allow Palestinians to set up ministries for police, culture, education, trade, justice and health — in effect all aspects of government except defence and foreign policy. "The security services would remain ours," he said, in excerpts of the interview, to be published in full on Thursday, marking Israel's independence day.

The concessions, which do not go far enough to satisfy the demands of most Palestinians for full statehood, appeared to provide further proof that Mr Shamir is making efforts to be seen to co-operate with Washington over its attempts to organise a peace conference for the Middle East. The American initiative, which has had Israel's support in principle, envisages holding a regional peace conference attended by Israel, nine Arab states, and Palestinian representatives, under American and Soviet auspices.

Senior Israeli sources made it clear yesterday that Mr Shamir viewed the most important aspect of his visit to London this week as his proposed meeting with Valentin Pavlov, his Soviet counterpart. In particular, Israel will attempt to persuade the Kremlin of the importance of restoring full diplomatic relations with it ahead of any Middle East peace conference. "I hope the renewal of diplomatic relations will come in any case, also independent of the talks that are taking place," said Mr Shamir.

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DANCE

Moving out in search of more space

Debra Craine on why Rambert has left Sadler's Wells after two decades

What does Richard Alston think he is doing? First, he severs all ties with Sadler's Wells, the theatre which has been the London showcase for Rambert Dance Company for the past 20 years. Then he takes Britain's oldest *contemporary* dance troupe elsewhere, depositing it in a peripheral London studio space with one-fifth the seating capacity. Why would any artistic director deliberately downplay his company's profile in the capital and, in the process, drastically reduce his potential audience?

The answer according to Alston is, simply, space. With a proscenium only 29 feet wide, Sadler's Wells has one of London's smallest performing spaces and for years, dance companies have complained about its cramped facilities. Yet after two decades there, Alston says it is now time for Rambert to stop putting up with its shortcomings.

"I just love to see dancers in a big space and you can see that in Southampton, you can see it in Oxford, in Glasgow and Birmingham, in Paris," he says. "It's really serious that there isn't a stage for dance in London that's better than the Wells. The Wells is really not good enough."

While it is true that Sadler's Wells has a prohibitively small stage, it is also true that Rambert, under Alston's direction, has found it increasingly difficult to fill the auditorium's 1,500 seats. Since he took over as artistic director in 1986, the company has moved away from the popular dramatically-based programming of his predecessors and towards the pure abstraction of Merce Cunningham's neo-classicism, a shift that cost Rambert some of its previous audience. The move to Riverside, a 319-seat studio space in west London, virtually guarantees a sold-out box office.

Still, Alston believes he is leading a campaign for a better performing space on behalf of dance companies generally. "Everyone actually has got reservations – pretty strong ones –about the Wells. But as long as they are there, as long as they don't go anywhere else, you go on tolerating it. I wanted to press for a large stage at Sadler's Wells can really get together this new theatre they are planning, then more power to their elbow. But at the moment I see no signs of it. I wanted to make a positive statement."

Alston's positive statement is to present Rambert's annual London spring season at Riverside Studios, where a new dance floor measuring 30 feet deep and 50 feet across has been laid for the two-week season, which begins tomorrow night. Such a space will undoubtedly give the performers more room to breathe, but it will also restrict the company's ability to display its visually striking sets. With no facilities to fly sets at Riverside, some of Rambert's programming has unfortunately been curtailed.

A new work, *Four Elements*, by the American post-modernist choreographer Lucinda Childs, which was the product of Rambert's £100,000 Prudential Award for the Arts, will not be seen in London this year because Jennifer Bartlett's set designs cannot be accommodated at Riverside. And the London premiere of Alston's own *Roughcut* will be given without the Perspex poles of Tim Hatley's set, itself the result of the 1989 Linbury Prize for Stage Design.

Alston knows that Riverside cannot provide the sole solution to Rambert's housing crisis. The company needs a higher profile in London and to achieve it, he has his sights set on the West End, where modern dance companies used to appear in the Sixties. Alston is currently negotiating with a West End theatre for a Rambert season.

"We have burned our boats at the Wells and we are going to plague managements until we can find somewhere else," he says. "I rather think there is a strong London audience for dance who will actually be extremely pleased to be able to go to see a company they want to see in the West End."

Perhaps Alston has been inspired by Rambert's recent success at the Paris Opera. Stepping in at the last minute for the Martha Graham Company – which pulled out of its planned season there because of the Gulf war – Rambert found itself in front of a traditional Paris Opera Ballet crowd, an audience markedly different from the one the company is used to here.

"At the first night there were a lot of extremely well-to-do people sitting around and I thought it was going to be really frosty. They started slowly, but they got warmer during *Embrace Tiger* and then they went wild at the end of *Roughcut*. They reacted amazingly enthusiastically."

If Alston's gamble pays off, Rambert could find itself with an entirely new audience at home, and scenes like that could be repeated in the West End.

● *Rambert's two-week season opens at Riverside Studios, Crisp Road, London W6 (081-748 3354) tomorrow night*

TED BATH



Richard Alston, artistic director of Rambert Dance Company: "The Wells is really not good enough"

ARCHITECTURE: BIRMINGHAM

Second city finds its feet

PAUL HACKETT



Resting place: Tom Lomax's "ingenious ensemble", a bronze sculpture in Centenary Square, depicting the three faces of Birmingham: Industry, Commerce and Enterprise

On the inauguration day of Birmingham's Symphony Hall, Richard Cork looks at the boldly imaginative remodelling of public spaces surrounding it

Bullied, polluted and throttled for decades by the city's obsession with traffic flow, the people of Birmingham are at last re-emerging from their subway-ridden oppression. Having suffered the tyranny of the Inner Ring Road ever since it was hatched in the post-war period, they now find that the planners are attempting to release them from its coils. Nowhere more spectacularly than in the remodelled Centenary Square, an immense open space dedicated to the pedestrian rather than the car.

Discovering such an unexpected sanctuary in the heart of this beleaguered city is a tonic. The aptly named Paradise Bridge has been flung over the road which once so noisily divided Centenary Square from the Victorian stateliness of the area around the town hall and art gallery. Astounded pedestrians find that the bridge is reserved for them alone as they walk, in unaccustomed serenity, towards an expanse of richly patterned paving in brick, designed by the artist Tess Jaray. Quiet yet rigorous, its rhythm is first asserted outside the Hall of Memory, erected soon after the first world war and guarded by bronze figures redolent of heroism, vigilance and grief.

Such an unexpected sanctuary in the heart of this beleaguered city is a tonic

Jaray's sinuous lines, honouring the Birmingham tradition of red and blue brick in its buildings, curve round the hall like concentric rings spreading outwards from a momentous splash. They gently take command of our feet, leading them round the hall and towards the arena where the main part of her pavement has been installed.

It unrolls in front of us with the steady, unforced authority of an oriental carpet. Rippling at the edges, the design grows in complexity as it approaches the centre of the square. Alternating between sections animated by zigzags, and bands filled with lozenges of colour, it pushes forward with a drive as irresistible as a powerful mosaic floor running up a cathedral nave.

But Jaray never allows the sense of exultation to lose sight of a human scale. This is a pavement softly attuned to the needs of the individual walker, and the figures who traverse it appear reassuringly at home as they negotiate the individual components of the pattern she has devised.

The colours accentuate the air of welcome it offers. On a dry, warm day the overall hue is reminiscent of terracotta, interspersed with pale mustard, parched ochre, sunbaked orange and a refreshing use of darker, blue-tinged elements. It serves memories of dusty Renaissance piazzas, and Jaray acknowledges that Italy had provided her with indispensable sources of inspiration.

At Centenary Square, however, she was allowed to design light fittings, benches and even litter bins as well as the pavement itself. These structures, in elegant and yet sturdy ironwork, indicate her respect for the still surviving Victorian street furniture elsewhere in the city. But they also possess a lightness of touch, and a leaning towards simplification, which identify them as late 20th-century in feeling. They certainly chime with the sensibility enlivening the pavement, and also provide congenial surroundings for the water sculpture produced by Tom Lomax.

Installed in a part of the square where the abundant seating undulates in a trefoil form around it, this complex sculpture contains three dark bronze dishes leaning against each other. The lighter images within each dish invite careful contemplation, ranging in mood from the serenity of a Buddha-like head to an open-mouthed man who finds himself clamped in a vice.

Without the intended play of water, Lomax's ingenious ensemble cannot yet be properly assessed. Nor can the colossal resin sculpture which Birmingham-born Raymond Mason is completing in his Paris studio. During the summer it will be placed on the plinth already inhabiting a raised area, where Jaray's zigzag patterns become faint and oddly tentative. They lack the absolute certitude of the paving elsewhere in the Square: the result, perhaps, of a tension between her abstract refinement and the more outspoken figurative approach adopted by Mason.

How did a painter of her calibre manage to secure such a monumental and all-embracing civic commission? Jaray had previously proved her aptitude for three-dimensional design by producing the plum-coloured terrazzo concourse at Victoria Station, and a decorative brickwork floor for Stoke-on-Trent garden festival.

She could not, however, have secured the Centenary Square project without the support of Vivien Lovell, the indefatigable director of Birmingham's Public Art Commissions Agency. Backed by Michael Diamond, director of the Birmingham City Art Gallery, Lovell suggested that the city's ambitious redevelopment plan should be accompanied by a Percent for Art policy.

To its credit, Birmingham agreed. So a working party was set up three years ago, with both Lovell and Diamond as key members, to decide how one per cent of the total building costs should be allocated to artists. The outcome of their pioneering efforts will only become fully apparent in the summer, when the work commissioned for the new convention centre is installed.

With a four-storey mural on the drum wall by Deanna Petherbridge, an entrance canopy filled with Ron Haselden's neon birds, and stained glass by Alex Beleschenko for the mighty wall overlooking the canal, the city's place in art will be vigorously declared.

But the convention centre was designed before any of the artists became involved, and its architectural shortcomings are a severe disappointment. The exterior is lumpish.

As for the inside, the central atrium is cluttered with a perverse amount of fussy detail. The architects, RHWL (Renton, Howard, Wood and Levin) and the Percy Thomas Partnership, have clogged the entire mall with a plethora of blue pillars, bridges, king-size chromium tubes and painted girders. They choke the space, and the process of asphyxiation is completed by the palm trees, shrubs and plants proliferating in every corner.

The Symphony Hall, where Simon Rattle will conduct the first concert tonight, has been given no architectural identity of its own. It is tucked away from view on the left of the entrance, one more anonymous unit inside a building with no time for asserting the sense of occasion which the Symphony Hall clearly needs.

In one respect, though, the convention centre does deserve praise. Its upper levels provide panoramic views of the paving below, and from here the full, sensuous extent of Jaray's achievement becomes apparent.

REVIEWS PAGE 18

Television: Lynne Truss on *Jeeves and Wooster* and Joan Collins

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THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

Michael Binyon reports from Ankara on the plight of the refugees nobody wants

Will the Kurds ever have a home?

Are the Kurds condemned to be the new Palestinians, an orphan nation uprooted from its homeland, scattered in exile or dumped in camps and left to rot when the world loses interest? That could be the future of the half million refugees from Saddam's gunships who freeze in the mountains in unspeakable conditions while the world dithers.

Kurdish history is one of betrayal, suffering, rebellion and repression. This latest mass exodus is the final stage of a tragedy that began after the first world war when the Western powers refused to honour promises to create a unified, independent Kurdistan. It continued with sporadic revolts and guerrilla campaigns by Kurds in Iran, Turkey and Iraq until Saddam Hussein's use of poison gas at Halabja in 1988 raised the spectre of genocide; now his tanks and gunships have snuffed out the short euphoria of revolt.

Will tossing powdered milk and blankets out of helicopters do anything except salve the West's conscience and ease President Bush's embarrassment? Are the Kurds to have a homeland, and if so, where? Can they be brought down from the mountains with any assurances of future safety?

No solution can be brokered without Turkey, home to more than half the estimated 20 million Kurds. Turkey, by far the strongest regional power, is a close ally of America and, despite well publicised cases of human rights violations, has the best record in its treatment of Kurds.

The Kurdish issue is acutely sensitive in Turkey, where to open the question of autonomy for minority rights is seen as a threat to the state structure laid down by the revered Atatürk. From the ruins of the old Ottoman empire — an extraordinary hotchpotch of religions, nationalities and ethnic groups — Atatürk created a unitary state in which everyone remaining within the truncated borders was simply a Turk, enjoying the same citizens' rights. Favour for any one group would spark fratricidal jealousy among the others. Until only a few years ago the use of the word Kurd was forbidden; officially they were "mountain Turks".

Kurds are by far the largest ethnic minority in Turkey, accounting for a fifth of the population. Many have emigrated west to the big cities, they feel and speak Turkish and their prosperity is tied to that of the whole country. Istanbul is almost 40 per cent Kurdish. But nationalism remains strong, fuelled by the economic poverty of their barren mountain homeland. The focus of their demands is their language, long forbidden for all official purposes, and official recognition of cultural differences. These demands have been clumsily handled by successive weak governments in Ankara and repressive military regimes. Tensions have mounted, and Kurds, with a quick glance over their shoulder, now voice contempt for "the Turks" whose presence is so visible all over the mountainous east.

Relations with other Turks and with the government have also been embittered by a vicious campaign by the PKK (Kurdish Workers Party) which in five years has killed at least 3,000 people — many of them Kurdish women and children — in an attempt to engender mass repression and revolt. Only recently has the government of Turgut Özal begun to ease restrictions in an attempt to improve Turkey's human rights record, undercut the covert support the PKK was getting in Syria and Iraq and pre-empt Kurdish nationalist demands.

Last week he pushed through a portmanteau anti-terrorism bill that lifts many political and civil rights restrictions lingering from the former military government. Political liberalisation has already allowed opposition MPs to press the demands of the Kurds in their political platforms. The government has also begun a $21 billion development programme for the south-east, the Kurdish heartland, under which 22 dams will be built. Water from these dams will irrigate well over a million acres of land, produce a surge of electricity and boost local investment. Impoverished Kurdish farmers of the region will see their incomes almost doubled. All in all, Turkey's Kurds are now doing better than for many years.

A mass migration of Iraqi Kurds threatens to upset everything. It would cost a vast sum, push demands for autonomy into open calls for separation, provoke a Turkish nationalist reaction and link Turkey's Kurds to violence and instability among their kinsmen over the border. All the more galling therefore to Ankara is the pressure in the West to take in all the Iraqi refugees.

The issue has sparked anew an almost paranoid resentment going back a century of what is seen as Western, especially west European, disdain for Turkey. The Turks point out that they took in 60,000 Kurds in 1988 and were given almost no credit. Only a handful were allowed to move to the West: Britain took one refugee and immediately imposed visa restrictions on all Turks. Turkey has also absorbed 300,000 refugees from Bulgaria, thousands of dissidents from Iran and at least 9,000 deserters from the Iraqi army. The charge everywhere is of Western hypocrisy and double standards.

Any proposal to settle the Iraqi Kurds in Turkey is a non-starter. "Which refugee, however well provided, is happy in a foreign land?" one Turkish official said. By contrast, Iran's decision to throw open its borders is seen as a wily move by President Rafsanjani to consolidate Iran's rapid return to warmer relations with the West, but Turks doubt whether Iran alone can bear the burden of an entire exodus, even if a disaffected army of refugees is a good weapon to hold in reserve against Iraq.

Returning home is not the solution the Kurds wanted when they fled. But they have little choice. Whatever the aid offered by the West and the size of the airlift, the Kurds will not be offered permanent sanctuary in Canada, Australia, Britain or America.

One elderly Kurd in a camp in Turkey voiced the sense of letdown that has become a *leitmotif* of Kurdish history: "We left Iraq to live. We came here to die. Everyone is dying."

THE KURDISH EXODUS

Estimated Kurdish population 1990		After the Gulf war
Turkey	10-12 million	400,000 refugees arrive
Iran	4 million	700,000 refugees arrive
Iraq	3 million	(Up to 2 million flee*)
Syria	700,000	Border closed
Soviet Union	100,000	

* More than 500,000 in hiding in mountainous areas

Ronald Butt

Tories gripped by death-wish

There is only one credible explanation for the sustained onslaught against the prime minister by people on his own side. The Tories have entered one of those phases in which political parties are periodically afflicted by a death-wish as faction fights faction and the clash of personalities and creeds takes precedence over the common interest.

The old adage that elections are lost by governments more than won by opposition politicians looks increasingly likely to be given further empirical proof.

Why do ex-ministers who are about to leave Parliament put the boot in? Why did Nigel Lawson complain that the government is indecisive in acting against the poll tax while Nicholas Ridley fights to the last drop of acid to save the name of the tax he loves, even though it is beyond resuscitation? And why did Mrs Thatcher's former *eminence grise*, Sir Alan Walters, complain that interest rates had not been lowered sooner? If they had been, many Thatcherites would have been the first to complain at the retreat from Thatcherite rigour.

In short, the attack on Mr Major for "dithering" and "fudging" amounts to nothing more than the negative and impudent howls of anger from people enraged by the displacement, as they see it, of their ideas and loyalties from their former primacy in government. It is as though they would rather see Mr Kinnock in Downing Street than give Mr Major a fair trial. In this kind of compulsive feuding the issues become secondary to the clash of personalities.

Mr Major is accused of being weak because he consults too much and takes the political temperature. (That was a persistent accusation in yesterday's Walden interview with the prime minister, who put up a calm and reasoned performance.) Yet he was not so weak that he dodged the policy problems inherited from Mrs Thatcher; on the contrary he committed himself to deal with the poll tax instantly.

He has seen the new needs which led to the leadership revolution, and if he has "dithered" a bit over means (to make sure they do not undermine ends) he has been clear about the required ends themselves. Mrs Thatcher, who has been careful to say nothing publicly that could be construed as criticism of Mr Major himself, is now reported to have spoken critically in America of his government as the "B-Team". It is an odd way to speak of ministers most of whom were in her own government. If she thinks Mr Major is doing badly because he is not doing what she would have done, she and her supporters should ask themselves why it is that Mrs Thatcher is not still in No 10 to act differently. The poll tax was at the root of her overthrow, and no successor could have avoided a change of policy.

But it is perhaps Mr Major's reaction to the Kurdish tragedy that has most clearly marked him as a politician with an individual contribution to make. In their urge for a hasty withdrawal from the Gulf, the Americans underestimated the enormity of the tragedy. But Mr Major quickly grasped the reality. His intervention, even if it proves impractical in detail, has forced Washington to take notice.

What is more, by putting forward his idea to European leaders, he underlines the truth that we should have benefited from a clearer European voice from the outset to balance that of America.

In yesterday's interview Mr Walden pursued Mr Major on whether he would advocate the use of troops if all other means of safeguarding the Kurds failed. The prime minister rightly refused to fall into that trap, the answer to which would ultimately have to depend on the Americans. But this does not invalidate an intervention that has obliged Washington to listen.

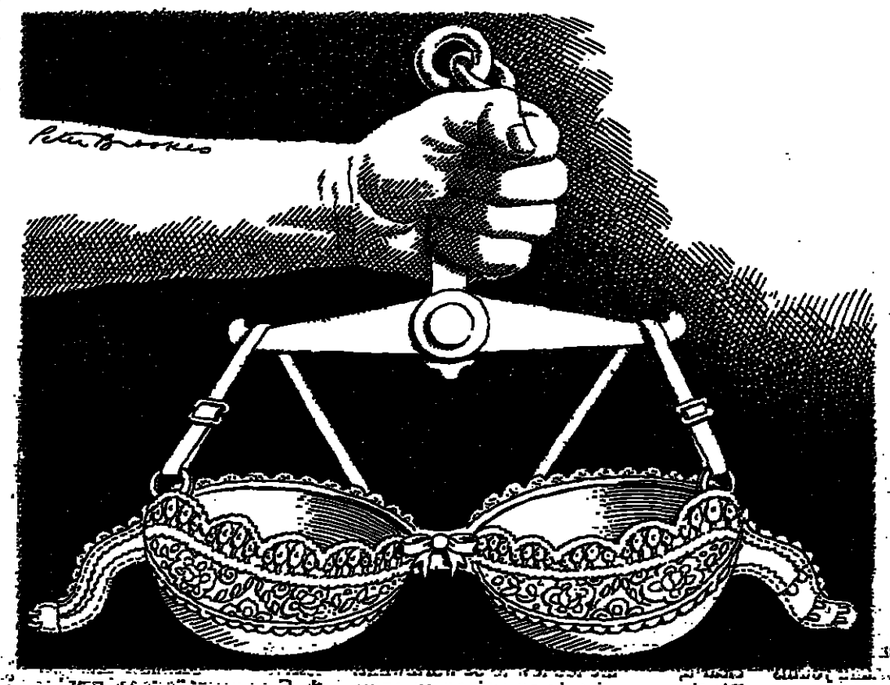
Mr Major learns quickly and knows what he wants to achieve even when he hesitates about how to achieve it. Those Tories who are feuding against him in their rage at being excluded from places of power and influence will gain nothing except a vote of thanks from Mr Kinnock. But so closely are personal feelings always entwined with ideas in politics that this is a lesson they may be incapable of learning from history.

Ignore this petty coterie

Bernard Levin asks why so much weight is given to the voice of so few in the row over the Swedish undie ads

Should you read next week that I have been found at the bottom of the Thames, neatly wrapped along with a couple of hundredweight of concrete, evince no surprise. (Outrage and sorrow, yes.) For I propose to discuss, from a potentially homicidable viewpoint, the row over the advertising poster showing an attractive young lady clad in her underwear and a charming smile. (*The Guardian* said she was "pouting", but on *The Guardian* they long ago forgot the difference, if indeed they ever knew it.)

Now the underwear was not there merely to kindle the lubricious thoughts of passing satyrs. The Advertising Standards Authority, which made the fuss, could hardly deny the right of the advertisers to put up a billboard with a picture of a model wearing underwear, because that is what the company doing the advertising made and sold. (It is called Hennes and is based in Sweden.) But although I suspect that the ASA would really have liked to indict Hennes for the lady and the lingerie, it had to confine its disapproval to the text accompanying the picture.



This ran: "Last time we ran an ad for Swedish lingerie 78 women complained. No men." In the familiar words of our dear sister, *The Sun*: Fury As, Fury At and Fury Over. It is notoriously dangerous to make jokes in the presence of those who have serious difficulty in understanding them, and doubly so if the joke is on them. In the circumstances it was inevitable that the ASA would rise to the occasion, or at least the bait. Po-faced, purse-lipped and pain-demeanoured, it insisted that the advertisement be withdrawn, as it was offensive to women.

No doubt it is; but to which women? There are something like 20 million of them in this country, and if the Advertising Standards Authority can't find a handful willing to complain, it might as well go out of business. (*What* a good idea!) In this case, it managed to find 117 offended complainants, which leaves approximately 19,999,883 unoffended women sprinkled thinly over the country. (That, though, takes no cognisance of the possibility that there were really only three complainants who wrote all the other angry letters in a variety of different handwriting.)

But there is worse to come. The earlier advertisement showed a similarly attractive and lightly-clothed lady, but in that instance the accompanying text was of an even more offensive nature, certain to provoke a postbag of complaint far exceeding the present one: it might well have attracted 119 outraged women, or even the whole round 120. The message ran: "What the au pair will be wearing this winter."

Very well, very well. I know that one of the most powerful handicaps women have to contend with is the male attitude which views them as dolls, creatures to be played with but not to be taken seriously. I think I know also — though here the Becher's Brook of assumption is somewhat wider — that photographs and advertisements emphasising only their bodies reinforce that unfortunate picture. As against that, though, lingerie is a legal commodity on which millions of pounds are spent, and it is difficult to think of a way it might be advertised without showing it.

But when that is said, it still leaves out the most important aspect of this business: the ASA and its complainants are behaving as though nobody in the land is sufficiently intelligent to see exactly what such advertising is up to and, having seen, dismiss it as harmless froth. I shall go further; the knicker-wowsers, who now join the smoking-wowsers, the drink-wowsers and the food-wowsers (I fear that this is not going to be their last appearance in this space), are every bit as willing to hector, bully and traduce their opponents, largely because, like the rest of the gangs, they know in their hearts that they are a tiny minority, as unrepresentative as they are shrill.

Come, may we not ask the Advertising Standards Authority how it dare promulgate such specious nonsense, based as it is on complaints by a number of people who, expressed as a percentage of the female adult population, amount to approximately 0.000006 if I have counted the noughts right? No doubt the ASA would say that its lofty role takes no account of such arithmetic; its *ipse dixit* must suffice. But, apart from the fact that the authority takes care to announce the numbers of complainants, all unaware that by doing so it is obviously (and justly) inviting derision, it really cannot claim any basis for its judgment of the Hennes lingerie firm if the entire nation minus 117 is wholly untroubled by the offence. The authority claims that in the last accounting year it received some 10,000 complaints; how many of these were rejected even by the ASA I do not know, but even if every one was upheld, that still leaves the dissatisfied as one four-thousandth of the adult population. Some fury.

But that is by no means all. Let us shift from the constable to the miscreant, for we have not yet heard the defence. It is a powerful and pragmatic one, provided by the head of the Hennes advertising department, Liz Sheppard. But before I introduce her, I must pause here to be inexcusably offensive on my own account.

I have never met Miss Sheppard, nor any of the women who complained at the advertisement, much less those who picketed Hennes's Brighton store last year at the time of the "an pair" joke. Yet I would wager a large sum that she is better-looking than any of them, *and I am certain that is a substantial part of the complainants' problem.*

Now for a word from our sponsor. Miss Sheppard goes on the attack at once. Hear her:

> Sales of lingerie have increased by 500 per cent at our Oxford Street branch as a result of the campaign. We are very proud of our advertising. It is very nice and quite justifiable. We have run a series of adverts in seven countries and only two [of the ads] have attracted comment, and only in England. They are too sensitive here about women in adverts.

But with that last sentence, even she concedes too much. The figures say clearly that practically nobody at all is too sensitive here, and next time she has to defend her company, she should say: "Isn't England sensible and nice — only 117 people in the whole country are too sensitive about women in adverts." In her place I would go further and put those very words over the lingerie-clad lady who is to figure in the next Hennes advertisement.

Have you ever noticed that every time a new organisation is set up, ostensibly for the people's good, its work *invariably* takes the form of stopping the people from doing something they enjoy doing and have been doing for years? The ASA wants to stop suggestive wording on lingerie advertisements. Take it from me; the next such organisation will demand an end to the lingerie advertisements themselves. And the one after that will abolish the lingerie.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

FROM *The Times* of June 15, 1991: As London's zoo hostage drama entered its 28th day, directors and keepers carried out their threat to kill more animals unless their demands for public funding are met. At 12 noon, as on the previous ten days, a hatch in the barricade manned by administrators and keepers was opened. This time four dead wallabies were tipped into the street. Pinned to the left ear of one was a note addressed to the home secretary, essentially repeating the contents of every communication sent out of the compound since the crisis began.

Sir. We, the directors of London Zoo, require from Her Majesty's Government three unconditional undertakings:

1. To pay off the accumulated overdraft of the Zoological Gardens.

2. To guarantee a subsidy of £10 million per annum in perpetuity to the zoo.

3. To grant to the directors and their staff an unqualified amnesty from criminal proceedings arising out of the recent zoological action which has unfortunately proved necessary.

Unless and until we receive cast-iron assurances on all three points we shall regretably be obliged to continue the action, comprising:

- *Progressive reduction of animal feeding towards starvation levels. Each week rations will be reduced by 20%.*
- *A carefully targeted cull of animals every day.*

At present we are selecting the Australasian mammals, starting with the less endangered species. Tomorrow it will be the kangaroos, followed by the koalas. Only as a last resort will we sacrifice the rare duck-billed platypus, but HMG should have no doubt as to our resolve.

Yours etc.

The directors

PS. Hope you received the section of elephant's ear included with our last letter.

PPS. Next enclosure will be a polar bear's claw. We are pulling them out one by one.

PPPS. Teddy's in big trouble.

As former prime minister Edward Heath prepares for a mercy mission to negotiate the release of two pandas, opinion in the political and scientific world remains divided over the wisdom of the visit. Mr Heath points out that the pandas are related to a pair given to him by Mao Tse-tung and he condemns the government's refusal to negotiate with the zoo's directors. The directors had hinted that as a sweetener to encourage the Heath mission they might be prepared to throw in a couple of giraffes.

Sources close to Downing Street insist that any dealing with the rebel directors will only encourage managements at Whipsnade, Chessington and other zoos to mount "copycat" zoological action. However, the home secretary remains willing to meet representives of the various animal support groups which have been formed to press for the release of their chosen species.

As might be expected, the best supported are the furry mammals. The Koala Support Group plans a march on Downing Street over the weekend. The Gorilla Action Movement has also attracted widespread notice and the llamas have found an unexpected constituency of sympathy.

Even the rabbits have their lobbyist: a children's television programme has encouraged young viewers to join the local "hutch" in a nationwide network. A petition from the Friends of the Chimps appealing for a helicopter drop of bananas was handed to the home secretary yesterday. But perhaps the most unusual minority call has been the Haringey Arachne Sisters, a lesbian support group for spiders who absailed from Nelson's Column during the mass panda rally in Trafalgar Square last weekend before being attacked by a delegation of dolphin sympathisers. The recently formed Noah's Ark Society, an umbrella organisation, has appealed for calm. So far, only the warthog appears to be without supporters.

Stop Press: Violence is erupting at the zoo. Despite the huge military presence, shots have been heard within the compound and unconfirmed reports suggest that the enclosure has been stormed by a self-styled liberation group calling itself the Anti-Vivisection, Anti-Hunt, Anti-Zoo Coalition. One rumour speaks of the directors being fed to the lions.

Oxfam man to succour Labour

When the heads of British aid agencies visit Whitehall today to discuss relief for Kurdish refugees with Douglas Hurd, there will be discreet words of congratulation for one of them. Frank Judd, director of Oxfam since 1985, is expected to be on the new list of working peers due to be announced later this month.

The list, which John Major has already approved, is secret, but the Labour grapevine has it that Judd, 56, who lost his seat in the 1979 general election, has been handpicked by Neil Kinnock to improve the party's performance in the House of Lords.

Judd served as a minister at defence, overseas development and the Foreign Office in the last Labour government. But his greatest attraction to the Labour party lies in his campaigning experience. Last year Oxfam raised £62 million and boasts that, with 777 shops, it has a stronger high street profile than even Marks & Spencer.

Judd's political background has not always enamoured him to everyone at Oxfam. One senior employee commented at the time of his appointment: "The last thing we need is a failed Labour politician who never stops talking." He has since had several rows with the charity commissioners about Oxfam overstepping the mark into the political arena, particularly over its support for sanctions against South Africa. Lately, however, he has tried scrupulously to keep his politics and his work apart.

The new list of working peers will also raise the interesting possibility of a race between the two main parties to break the front-bench mould in the Lords. Indian-born Shreela Flather, who was made a Tory peer last year, has been widely tipped to become the first Asian to hold ministerial office in the upper house. At the same time, Labour sources say that Kinnock's new list of four or five names includes a senior black figure destined for an early rise to frontbench responsibility.

- *The Roman forum comes to Sotheby's today when eleven stable lads and one stable lass are sold into bondage. But, before the vice squad rushes in, they will remain in captivity only until they run in the London marathon next weekend, and most of the money raised from their temporary slavery will go to charity. But to show what enlightened times we live in, the slaves will be rewarded. The three with the best times will receive 7.5 per cent of their sale price.*

Noises off?

Rehearsals for the annual summer season at the Open Air Theatre in Regent's Park begin today with an added poignancy. Could it be the last in which the traditional performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* are interrupted at the most dramatic and inopportune moments by roaring lions and screeching parrots from London Zoo?

Theatre officials and actors have complained for 30 years, but admit they would miss the offstage obbligato. One lion, it is said, has the uncanny knack of knowing just when to intervene — usually when Bottom is declaring: "I will roar, that I will do any man's heart good to hear me." The parakeets and peacocks join in when Shakespeare's rude mechanical amends his offer to roar: "as gently as any sucking dove".

"Performances may be quieter in future," says Robert Noble, administrator of the theatre, "but we are all very sad at the prospect of the zoo closing." Without the zoo noises, he says, the only interruptions will be the sound of hedgehogs under the stage and the altogether less romantic whack of bat meeting ball from the nearby baseball games.



- *MCC members were amused by a Freudian slip in the ballot paper sent to them on whether women should be admitted to the club premises at Lord's. "Should MCC members be permitted to introduce a lady guest to the pavilion?" it asks. Cherchez la femme, indeed.*

Turned to stone

The opening tonight of Birmingham's £160 million new concert hall with Simon Rattle conducting the CBSO promises to be a jolly affair — in contrast to the ceremonial laying of the foundation stone in 1983.

Because both the British government and the European Commission were putting money into the project, a problem arose as to who should perform the honours. After much soul-searching, the then chief executive of Birmingham city council, Tom Caulcott, decided on Jacques Delors, since the biggest single grant was coming from the EC. The British government was represented by Nicholas Ridley, hardly noted as a member of the Delors fan-club.

To mollify him, Caulcott asked him to lay a time capsule under the foundation stone. "Mr Ridley looked down his nose during the entire proceedings and was very glum," recalls Caulcott. "He looked positively bilious during the lunch afterwards, and it definitely wasn't the food."

Count on it

Disregarding for the moment the claims of the abacus, the world's first calculating machine is due to go on display at the Science Museum later this year. The machine was built 140 years ago by the British engineer and mathemetician Charles Babbage, whose inventions also include a type of speedometer and the locomotive cowcatcher. It has been lovingly reconstructed by the museum's backroom boys, who have spent nearly a year tinkering and tweaking in the cellars in South Kensington.

The remarkable machine is 10ft long and stands 6ft high. In reconstructing it, the computer boffins at the museum have developed renewed respect for Babbage. "What we thought were over-elaborate refinements in his designs turn out to have a subtle but vital role to play," says Doron Swade, curator of computing.

It should be on display by July — in full working order. What odds on the slimline Japanse version in readers' pockets at this very moment still being capable of adding two and two in the year 2131?

Police guard Mandela as Zulus go on the rampage

By GAVIN BELL IN JOHANNESBURG AND OUR FOREIGN STAFF

FOUR men were killed in factional fighting near Nelson Mandela's home in Soweto at the weekend, prompting intervention by riot police to protect the African National Congress deputy president and his family.

Colonel Johann Mostert, a police spokesman, said ANC officials appealed for help when about 500 Zulu supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party went on the rampage around a workers' hostel about two miles from the Mandela mansion on Saturday night. Police who confronted the mob were attacked with stones, and shots were fired at officers in an armoured vehicle, who responded with shotguns and rubber bullets. Four bodies were found in the area, Colonel Mostert said. One had been burnt alive, two shot with AK47 assault rifles, and one hacked to death.

Mr Mandela and Clarence Makwethu, president of the Pan-Africanist Congress, meet in Harare today to map out a joint strategy to end Pretoria's white minority rule. The men are due to lead their teams in talks, to be opened by President Mugabe of Zimbabwe, which officials say will centre on the groups' common demand for an interim government and a constituent assembly ahead of constitutional negotiations in South Africa.

The meeting will bring together for the first time in more than 30 years the national executive members of the ANC and the PAC. The conference is being held outside South Africa because some exiled nationalist leaders attending have not yet received assurances from Pretoria, which offered a general amnesty in February, that they will not be prosecuted on returning home.

The fighting in Soweto erupted only a few hours after Mr Mandela announced that the ANC had begun forming defence units in black townships. Addressing thousands of mourners at the funeral of victims of killings in Alexandra township, on the east side of Johannesburg, Mr Mandela said that they could not rely on the police to protect them. "If it is OK for whites to have neighbourhood watches and civilian guards, it should be equally acceptable for blacks to have their own defence units."

Mr Mandela said the ANC would honour an agreement with Pretoria not to train members of its armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe, inside the country, "but there was no agreement that we will not form units to defend our people", he told his cheering audience. "If the government takes exception to this decision, we are not going to listen to them. Blacks in this country are being killed by other blacks with the assistance of the police."

Salvador ambush kills 14

Mexico City — The Salvadorean army killed 14 guerrillas, including a nephew of President Chamorro of Nicaragua, in what rebels claimed was an effort to derail peace talks.

The ambush occurred on Thursday in El Salvador's northern Chalatenango province, said Salvador Samoaya, spokesmen for the rebel Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front.

The attack is likely to derail UN-mediated peace talks which opened in Mexico on April 4. Señor Samoaya said Antonio Cardenal, a rebel commander whose aunt is Señora Chamorro, died. *(AP)*

Fatal stampede

Dhaka — Four people were trampled to death and dozens were injured when thousands of Bangladeshis stampeded for free clothes and cash handouts from wealthy businessmen. Giving clothes and money to the poor is a tradition in Bangladesh on the eve of Eid ul-Fitr, a festival marking the end of Ramadan. *(Reuter)*

New year appeal

Kathmandu — King Birendra of Nepal, who yielded his absolute powers in face of a popular pro-democracy movement, appealed to his people in a speech marking the Nepali new year to vote peacefully but in large numbers in their first multiparty polls in 30 years. The elections will be held on May 12. *(Reuter)*

Rwanda clash

Nairobi — Rwandan government troops killed 20 rebels of the Rwanda Patriotic Front in a clash in the northeastern Ruhengeri region, near the town of Muhabura on the border with Uganda, state radio, monitored in Nairobi, reported yesterday. There were no losses on the government side, it said. *(AFP)*



Clean-up campaign: a lifesize cutout of Rajiv Gandhi, the Congress (I) leader, being dusted by a party worker in Delhi as India prepares for general elections next month, when Mr Gandhi hopes to return to power

Kashmir threat to Swedish hostages

From CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN DELHI

KASHMIRI militants are threatening "extreme steps" against two Swedish hostages early this week unless the Indian government allows independent investigations into human rights abuses by security forces.

Johan Jonsson and Ole Loman, who were working on an engineering project, were kidnapped 16 days ago in support of demands for visits by teams from the United Nations and Amnesty International. A group calling itself the Muslim Janbaz Force said it was responsible.

Kashmiri militants are losing much of their attraction and popularity because of intimidation of the local population. Women have been ordered to wear veils in public, or face unspecified serious consequences. In the past, uncovered women have had black ink thrown in their faces. Educated women, in particular, resent the instruction but are obeying it. Security forces believe it is designed to allow militants to disguise themselves as women observing purdah.

Talks in China on airport collapse

From JONATHAN BRAUDE IN HONG KONG

FOREIGN Office officials returned to Hong Kong yesterday to brief Sir David Wilson, governor of the colony, and his senior advisers, after the breakdown in Peking late on Saturday of Sino-British negotiations on Hong Kong's £9 billion airport construction project.

Despite fears that the failure of the talks would rock the stock market today, politicians here refused to rule out shelving the airport if China demands too high a price for giving it the green light.

Few details of the negotiations were available yesterday as both sides maintained the news blackout imposed since Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, left China last week.

A television report said it was believed that Britain and China had agreed that Hong Kong's fiscal reserves should be maintained at a secretly agreed minimum when the colony is handed over to Chinese control in 1997.

The talks appeared to have stalled over the amount of control Peking should have in Hong Kong before 1997.

Leaden days for gold town

The mining industry that was once South Africa's economic mainstay is struggling to make a living, **Gavin Bell** *reports*

IN THE western Transvaal town of Stilfontein, everybody knows the latest gold price because their livelihood depends on it. It now spells economic disaster for their community, facing the closure of its biggest mine with the loss of 2,500 jobs.

The mainstay of the South African economy for a century, the gold mining industry is experiencing the worst crisis in its history, because of stagnating prices, low grades and inflation. Almost half the country's gold is being produced at a loss, and the chamber of mines predicts further closures.

The cost in human terms is appalling. About 40,000 workers were laid off last year, and more are expected to join them this year. For the large majority, there are no prospects of regular employment.

The worst affected are migrant workers from Lesotho, Mozambique, and the tribal homelands of Transkei and Ciskei, where it is estimated that each miner supports up to ten dependants.

Operation Hunger, a private relief agency, provided emergency aid for about 250,000 people in the Transkei region last year. Since December it has been feeding an additional 150,000 there, and it estimates a similar number will soon be streaming to their soup kitchens — most of them as a result of the slump in gold mining.

The longer-term consequences include increased migration from impoverished rural areas to squatter camps mushrooming around South African cities, with a rise in overcrowding and crime. The city of gold, Johannesburg, has become the city of gloom.

While South Africa remains the world's biggest gold producer, the importance of the industry to the economy is rapidly declining. Bank statistics show gold's percentage of total exports fell from 42 per cent in 1983 to 25 per cent last year.

With black trade unions agitating for a redistribution of wealth in a post-apartheid era, forthcoming wage negotiations are likely to be tough. Dr Horst Wagner, acting chief executive of the chamber of mines, has appealed to union leaders to show restraint. "Current conditions make it imperative that employee organisations adopt a reasonable approach to negotiations on wages and other conditions," he said. But Jerry Majatladi, an official of the black national mineworkers' union, rejects arguments that wage restraint would safeguard jobs, saying nationalisation offers the only long-term solution.



THE TRAINING AWARD FOR THOSE WHO'VE DONE TRÈS BON, MAGNIFICO OR EVEN 太好的

The Times is sponsoring a special Training Award for businesses that are breaking down international barriers. (For example, the language barrier).

You have to show that training has made you more efficient, more productive or more profitable in the world arena.

Last year's award went to Language & Communication Services who designed a training programme for small to medium sized businesses. It involved teaching the languages, business skills and marketing they needed to compete abroad. Thirty five companies took part in their programme last year. It helped give these businesses the confidence to see the 1992 challenge as a 1992 opportunity.

Winners of Training Awards have the chance of featuring in the national and regional press. (The Times itself did a special supplement on the 83 winners of the 1990 Awards).

These awards aren't taken lightly. This year, His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales is patron.

In the long term, printing the National Training Award logo on your stationery will imprint your company on people's minds.

Future clients, graduates, even your competition, will know you're dedicated to developing your people. Making your company the kind of place more people want to join and fewer people want to leave.

It's for all these reasons that there were over 1,200 entrants last year.

If you want to put your company on the map, send off for a 1991 entry pack or telephone **0800 900 930.**

For further information about the National Training Awards and a copy of the 1991 Entry Pack please write to: National Training Awards, FREEPOST (4335), Bristol BS1 3YX.

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EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT GROUP

NATIONAL TRAINING AWARDS HAVE THEIR REWARDS

Test drive a luxury on luxury but not Luxury.

Settle into the electrically adjustable leather seats of the new Peugeot 605 SVE 24.

Listen to the double-sealed door shut with a deep, soundproofed thud. Run your fingers over the Californian walnut.

You'll feel the cares of the office slip away, and you're not even out of the car park.

Subjective terms like 'luxurious' inevitably spring to mind when confronted with having to describe any of the 605 models, from the 2 litre SLi to the 3 litre SVE 24. However, Autocar and Motor



magazine were able to give a completely objective description.

They compared the 605's levels of refinement with those of the Jaguar XJ6, and came to the conclusion that, "...in some respects it (the 605) even exceeds them."

You'll find our designers' attention to detail everywhere. Reach for any of the 605's controls. You'll find you don't have to reach.

The cabin has been designed so that the electric controls you'll find as standard in every 605 model, such as those for the front window, tilt and slide glass sunroof and the heated door mirrors all fall readily to hand, and "...even with the wheel set fully back and down, the comprehensive and clear instrument panel is fully visible to a six foot-plus driver." Autocar and Motor.

On nine of the 605 models you can even keep your hands stationary while you change stations on the stereo radio, because the main controls are duplicated on one of the 4 steering column stalks.

All 605's have outstanding handling built into them.

Should you decide to test drive any one of the new Peugeot 605 models (and we sincerely hope you do) we suggest you take it through a variety of road and driving conditions, because you'll find there's virtually no variation in the 605's ride.

In fact on 3 litre models Peugeot's engineers have built in an automatic electronic ride control.

This keeps your journey smooth by constantly adjusting the settings of the shock absorbers between hard and soft, based on information received from sensors around the car.

Each of the shocks contains a tiny electric motor that carries out these adjustments in just 150th of a second.

Power steering is, needless to say, standard on all 605 models.

And while you're relaxing as you watch the world fly by, it's unlikely you'll hear it fly by.

The 700 hours the 605 spent in our wind tunnel has given it the best drag coefficient in its class.

Just for good measure we've added 3 silencers to the exhaust and double sealing for any pipes or wires passing from the engine to the cabin.

We've even mounted the engine on its own hydraulically damped suspension system.



All this has created the kind of refined interior environment that until now was only found in the world's most expensive luxury cars.

As far as the exterior environment is concerned, rest assured each 605 petrol model runs on unleaded, and each one, from the £17,022 SLi to the £27,097 SVE 24, is fitted with three-way catalytic converters that exceed *forthcoming E.E.C. emission standards.*

So everyone can relax as a 605 flies by, whether it be 2 litre, 3 litre, turbo diesel or 24 valve V6.



For a long, luxurious drive call O

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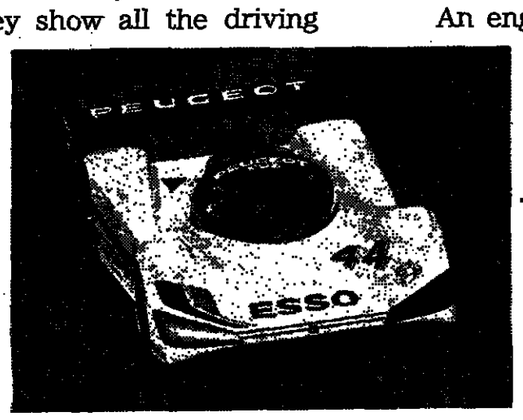
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Xry car that's long it iot short on car.

"A real driver's car that rides well, is quiet, roomy and well built is still the exception rather than the rule in this market sector. The 605 has all the credentials it needs." Autocar & Motor.

That was the kind of response that we hoped we'd get for the eleven-car 605 range, not just because it shows them in a good light, but because it touched on a truth we'd discovered when talking to drivers of executive cars.

Many of these drivers had found, to their cost, that manufacturers often give their cars a veneer of luxury features so they look terrific in the showroom, but once out on the open road they show all the driving characteristics of a Chesterfield sofa.



At Peugeot we pride ourselves on the performance and handling of all our cars. When we entered the 'hot hatchback' market we revolutionised it with the now legendary 205 GTI. We wouldn't have entered the luxury car market unless we were confident we could do the same.

For sheer power there can be no doubt that the 605 SVE 24, for example, is a wolf in Savile Row clothing. In controlled tests it accelerated comfortably to 145mph, leaving its German cousins, the Audi Quattro 20V and the BMW 735i, in its wake. But power alone is no mark of engineering sophistication. More important is how efficiently a car uses that power.

One of the problems with high performance engines is that with a fixed airflow volume they suffer from relatively poor gas inflow at low revs. In other words, acceleration in fourth and fifth gears is impaired.

Peugeot's engineers have solved this problem with a variable inlet manifold, so that gas velocity, and consequently torque, is

Car.

increased at lower revs. The result is that with a 605 SVE 24 you don't have to change down to accelerate.

An engine's ability to produce power can also be affected by things like air temperature, fuel octane rating and even altitude. (A conventional engine actually performs less well in the Swiss Alps than in the Dutch Lowlands).

To overcome this, Peugeot's engineers have devised an engine management system that automatically takes all these factors into consideration, and chooses the optimum spark timing and fuel injection timings from a choice of 11,664 permutations.

However, as any racing car designer will tell you, for a driver to be in complete control, chassis design is paramount.

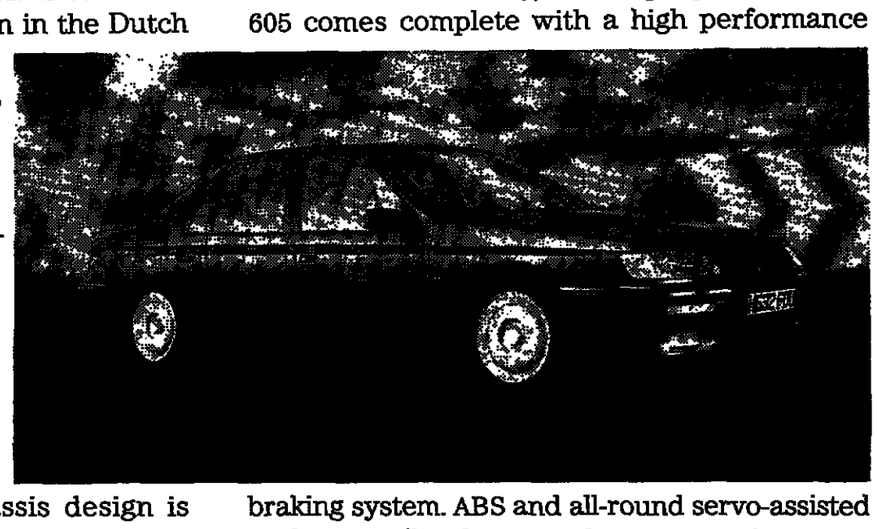
Our racing car designers, whose 905 will be racing at Le Mans this year, have been invaluable in helping to engineer the ride and handling system, unique to the 605 range.

The double wishbone rear suspension is derived from the classic layout of competition and sports cars, with computers being used to set the ideal geometry for keeping 'rubber on the road.'

A special lateral link has been added to the rear suspension which prevents the front from diving when braking sharply, and the rear from squatting when accelerating. Speed-variable power steering on the 3 litre models takes the effort out of negotiating the 605's 4.7 metres around the company car park, then gets progressively more taut and responsive as the car's speed increases.

Car & Driver said, "The Peugeot handles superbly, ranking among the very best large front-drive automobiles. Indeed the 605 has such good balance and grip that the uninformed might not be able to decide if the front or rear wheels are doing the driving," and who are we to disagree.

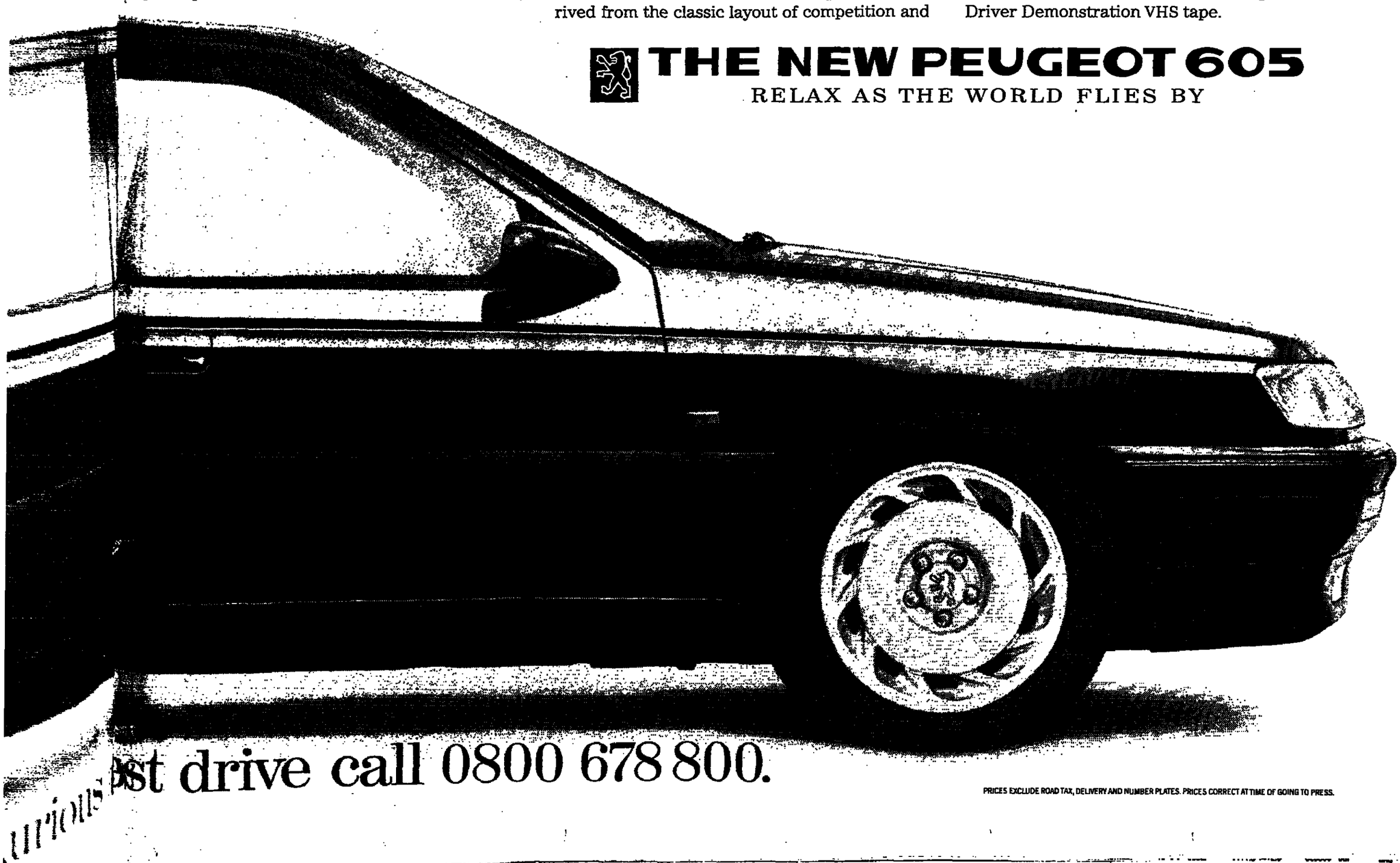
Needless to say, the high performance 605 comes complete with a high performance braking system. ABS and all-round servo-assisted brakes are fitted as standard across the range.



If you'd like to know more about how any one of the eleven 605s flies by, ask your secretary to call 0800 678 800 and arrange a test drive with your local Peugeot dealer. Alternatively she can ask for our special 605 Driver Demonstration VHS tape.

THE NEW PEUGEOT 605

RELAX AS THE WORLD FLIES BY



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PRICES EXCLUDE ROAD TAX, DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES. PRICES CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS.

When women are driven by fear

Are advertisements that feature damsels in distress capitalising on women's fears and creating a false sense of insecurity? Liz Gill reports



The right image? A scene from the RAC television advertisement, in which a woman doctor driving alone at night begins to lose her grip

The new television commercial for the RAC shows a woman doctor driving alone late at night through deserted city streets. The woman is attractive, competent, in control but then the car starts to run low on petrol. She becomes agitated, the surroundings appear ever more menacing, and who is this leather-clad biker weaving in and out of the shadows? He is, of course, not the bogey man of urban nightmare but her friendly RAC patrolman.

The motoring organisation says the advertisement, which promotes its rescue service for "lone females", is meant to be reassuring, but many women may find its sub-text has the opposite effect. You may have come a long way baby, it suggests, but at bottom you are still a damsel in distress.

The notion that women are vulnerable is being aired again with the start of Britain's first Crime Prevention Week. Today, the Metropolitan Police launches a video and booklet, *Positive Driving*, which is co-sponsored by Rover and includes advice on precautions women drivers should take. On Thursday a national conference to be addressed by John Patten, the Home Office minister, and Jo Richardson, the shadow minister for women, will focus on the issue of women and crime.

There is, however, mounting unease that the continued emphasis on women as potential victims may be crossing the fine line between sense and scare mongering.

Security, and women's security in particular, is big business – one of the fastest growing in the country. The question – what price peace of mind? – may now be answered in hundreds if not thousands of pounds. For a start there is the home: experts say a lot can be done with £100 of locks and bolts but more elaborate systems involving burglar alarms, exterior lighting, intercoms and automatic garage doors could push expenditure up tenfold.

Then there is transport. Women who wish to avoid public transport must pay for cabs or the costs of running a car – and the better the car, the more money spent on its maintenance, the less likely it is to break down. Basic membership of a rescue organisation costs about £50 a year and a car phone costs from about £25 a month plus calls.

On the street, today's woman may feel improperly dressed without a screech alarm, although in this country she is forbidden the armoury of CS gas, Mace sprays and electric stun guns the size of a cigarette packet which her American sisters might choose.

"People have realised there is money in women's fear," says Dr Betsy Stanko, a senior lecturer in law at Brunel university and the author of *Everyday Violence*. "The images are everywhere. Car phones are marketed as safety enhancers, magazines have ads for rape alarms, advertisements for grilles and other security devices often show a woman's face behind the bars.

"What they are saying is, 'Stay home', but home is not the place to be, not just because home itself may be violent – the British Crime Survey of 1988 reported that 56 per cent of assaults against women were domestic – but because it is once again a way of making women invisible."

Topline International sells about half a million of its £5.10 Walk-easy personal alarms a year, mostly in Britain, and the company's director, Raymond Root, believes that there is a far greater market potential. "Most are sold to women but some companies buy them for staff they think may be at risk. And men buy them as presents for their wives or girlfriends."

Which? survey last year that tested seven different such alarms priced between £3 and £11 (including one called the Sir Galahad) produced some disquieting results. Whether the alarms were set off in a city street at noon or in a barn near a country pub at night, passers-by paid no attention.

Mr Root believes the alarms are effective: "If you are a would-be attacker suddenly getting 115 decibels full blast at you it is very disorientating indeed. It can give the user those valuable few moments to turn the situation around. The point about carrying them is that they give a woman an added degree of confidence and we know that a woman with an air of confidence is less likely to be attacked."

The company also markets a £7.15 portable lock for use in an unfamiliar room and a poster with "Help – call police" in fluorescent letters for £4.95 in case of a motorway breakdown.

'We are not trying to raise anxieties or be patronising. But rescue is our business and you are going to be rescued by a man'

The police do not recommend help signs, which they say may invite the wrong person to stop, but they recommend personal alarms. A spokesman for Scotland Yard says: "We share the view that they are a deterrent – being confronted with a very loud sound can be shocking to an attacker – but only if they are readily to hand. It is no good keeping them in the bottom of your handbag."

Michael George, the spokesman for the RAC, says: "We have to deal with the issues of the day and the lone female is one of them. A survey we did in January showed that 42 per cent of women hated driving alone at night.

"We are not trying to raise anxieties or be patronising. We deliberately picked a professional woman and it is her husband who has let the petrol get low. But rescue is our business and you are going to be rescued by a man because we do not have any female patrols."

Gill Hopkins, the manager of the women's motoring programme for Lombard North Central, the finance company, believes that as far as women and cars are concerned, knowledge is power. She runs twice-weekly workshops around the country called Women in the Driving Seat. The evenings are a combination of practical advice – how to change a wheel, for instance – and tips from the police on secure journeys.

Ms Hopkins travels 25,000 business miles a year, with a car phone and a personal alarm. "I feel very much that the car is my space and I enjoy driving," she says. "Women deserve every freedom and should never be frightened into not doing something. But the more you know, the less vulnerable you are. If, for example, you stop because the car is overheating and you know you could wait until it cools down and then drive to the next phone, you would not get out and walk."

One of the organisers of Thursday's conference is the charity Crime Concern. Donna Blake, its spokesman, hopes the conference will move the debate on from what individuals can do to wider initiatives in social planning and education. "We have to focus on why it happens in the first place. The choice should not be between staying indoors or carrying a rape alarm."

Dr Stanko is scathing about helpful bits of advice which she says are either so obvious they do not need stating, are employed by women anyway or are downright impractical: "What woman, for example, would choose to wait at a dimly lit bus stop, but what if she has no choice? The problem is the local authority's, not hers."

Whether you can buy your way out of trouble remains a moot point. "If you feel more confident and protected with alarms and such I cannot criticise that, but I am concerned that crime prevention should not fall on women's shoulders alone," Dr Stanko says. "The only true protection is going to come when we address the real question of why men are so violent towards women. If the answer is going to be a shrug of the shoulders, a 'that's just the way it is girls and if you want to go out you will have to take the consequences' attitude, then I am afraid that's just not good enough in a supposedly civilised society."

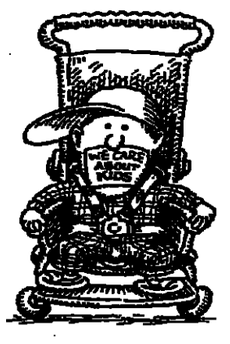
Small talk is a tot too much

Edinburgh may be the first official child-friendly city, but not everyone is happy to play along with the idea

BATTLING along Princes Street against a sea of baby buggies and tides of ten-year-olds cramming down hamburgers, you cannot fail to be reminded of Edinburgh's latest claim to fame. "We Care About Kids", scream luridly coloured stickers, posters and banners dotted on shop windows, restaurants and once genteel public buildings. The UK's first child friendly city has arrived.

The city's lord provost, Eleanor McLaughlin, dandling her granddaughter Kirsty on her knee, says children have been second class citizens in Britain for too long. The council, in partnership with the business community, aims to change all that, putting out a welcome mat for little feet, training shop assistants to be helpful and cordoning off chunks of public space for play areas.

Of all the splendid aims to which Scotland's capital might aspire, did it really have to plump for this dubious ambition, which smacks of having nothing else to offer? Is it mere coincidence that the headache-inducing campaign was launched by the first city father to be a grandmother? And has anyone else noticed that the initials of the city's campaign stand for a familiar environmental menace – CFC?



Born out of an appropriately named "brainstorming session", the campaign has been nurtured by a mini think-tank known as Edinburgh Vision, whose grant-funded members seek to "improve the quality of life of residents and visitors in Edinburgh".

The director of Vision, Isabel Willshaw, says the campaign will benefit both businesses and parents. She thinks children should be regarded as an opportunity, not a nuisance. Families trying to do normal things such as going to museums, she says, are treated as though they have a "dreaded disease" and she wants to make everyone aware that children should be treated with respect if they are to become good citizens.

Claims that half the adult population are parents of under-16s may well be true. It therefore follows that the other half of us are not. Putting even more power in the tiny fists of the I-want-it-now-or-else generation will do nothing for my quality of life. And I am willing to bet that there will be as many holiday cancellations as bookings to a city whose marketing strategy conjures up an image of sticky fingers, shrill screams and an ever present whiff of sick.

The bright pink, hot orange, deep purple and bilious green colour scheme of the promotional material now offending the eye all over the city reinforces this picture of a nightmarish holiday camp.

Once Edinburgh was proud to be known as the Athens of the north. Only last year the Prince of Wales described it as "the most beautiful and civilised city in Britain". Edinburgh also came top in a recent UK study as the most desirable place to live.

Now, if the year long, child friendly city campaign has its way, Edinburgh will be renowned for high chairs, nappy changing rooms and five-star crèches. If ever there was an ambition rooted in muddled thinking, it is the breathless statement that: "The campaign aims to put Edinburgh on the map as *the* child-friendly city."

What a tatty, mediocre claim to fame for a city that, as Miss Jean Brodie might have said, is the creme de la creme. Edinburgh needed no vulgar year of culture to bring the arts to its citizens, nor does its clutch of first rate hotels thrive by offering children's portions. It is a city with a royal palace, a national art collection which is the envy of Britain and a shopping boulevard as famous as the Champs-Elysées.

Now the dreaded words "children welcome" will blow a chilly draft around adult hearts. If our department stores are dragooned into Caring About Kids, will we find ourselves knee-deep in building bricks in the dress department? And what of the crisp crumbs on theatre seats after subsidised toddlers' matinées?

It is people like me, of course, that Ms Willshaw is out to convert. But how can I prevent a shudder when she reports that the council has approved no fewer than 95 pubs as child friendly? Businesses in Edinburgh are soon to receive a handbook explaining how they can make themselves more child friendly. *Awards will be given for providing* toy-boxes, feeding and changing rooms and a welcoming smile.

Next on the agenda is a child friendly guide book. It is sure to become a must for grown-ups seeking a haven of peace, a ready warning of all the places to be avoided.

JOAN SIMPSON

National Westminster Bank
Interest Rates

National Westminster Bank announces the following interest rates, effective from 15 April 1991:

Savings

Gross Interest per annum #		Gross Compounded Annual Rate*
	Tessa Reserve Tax Free Savings	
13.00%	No Minimum Balance	13.65%
	Crown Reserve 3 Months' notice	
	Minimum Investment £2,000	
11.75%	£25,000 and above	12.28%
11.50%	£10,000 – £24,999	12.01%
11.125%	£2,000 – £9,999	11.60%
	Premium Reserve Instant Access	
	Minimum Balance £2,000	
11.75%	£25,000 and above	12.28%
11.50%	£10,000-£24,999	12.01%
11.125%	£2,000-£9,999	11.60%
	First Reserve Instant Access No Minimum Balance	
9.00%	£1,000 and above	9.31%
8.50%	£500-£999	8.77%
8.00%	£250-£499	8.24%
7.50%	£100-£249	7.71%
7.00%	£0-£99	7.19%
5.50%	World Savers (for children)	5.58%

Gross Interest per annum #		Gross Compounded Annual Rate*
	Special Reserve† Instant Access Savings Minimum Balance £500	
9.75%	£25,000 and above†	10.11%
9.25%	£10,000-£24,999†	9.58%
9.00%	£2,000-£9,999†	9.31%
8.50%	£500-£1,999†	8.77%
	Investment Account†	
8.125%	6 Months' Notice†	8.29%
8.00%	3 Months' Notice†	8.16%
	Monthly Income	
7.75%	Account*†	8.03%
5.50%	On Line Account†	5.58%
4.50%	Bonus Saver Account†	4.55%
	7 Day Notice	
2.625%	Deposit Account†	2.64%

Current Accounts

Gross Interest per annum #		Gross Compounded Annual Rate*
2.875%	Current Plus	2.91%
4.625%	Card Plus	4.71%
4.625%	Student Plus	4.71%

*Monthly Income Account effective from 1 May 1991.
†Existing Account Holders only.
Where appropriate. Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from interest credited or paid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers). Subject to the required registration form, interest will be paid gross.
*Gross Compounded Annual Rate is the true annual return on your savings if the interest payments are retained in the account.

National Westminster Bank plc
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

Dragging camp into fashion

The British middle classes, it seems, cannot get enough of men in frocks

AUDIENCES are flocking to a London club which was last week auditioning for "drag artists, female impersonators, high-camp artistes and athletic good looking guys". The full house signs on the door of Madame Jo Jo's, six nights a week, show that the British middle classes cannot get enough camp.

So hungry are the public for this naughty but nice form of entertainment that the club creates a new show every three months. The current offering is *Continental Caper*, a cabaret extravaganza featuring the ample Ruby Venezuela, the director of the show, in a gondolier's costume; then Ruby dressed as a banana girl in "Yes, We Have No Bananas", followed by Ruby as a Beefeater.

'If you brought granny, she'd be back'

At the end of the evening she emerges, without make-up, false breasts and wig, as a round, friendly, tired man waiting to go home. "I don't sleep in a wineeyette nightie and I don't go to the bakery in a dress. When I'm out of here I look like a man. None of us here is a transvestite, we're drag artistes."

Since it opened in 1986, Madame Jo Jo's has gone from being a small alternative cabaret club to one of porn-magnate Paul Raymond's best investments. Indeed, it is such a money-spinner that the Paul Raymond company is now taking the original manager, John Wright (alias Madame Jo Jo), to court over his use of the name at the separate club he has now started.

Tourists visit Madame Jo Jo's in the way they would go to *Cats* or *Les Misérables*, and they are of all ages, ranging from hen parties in their mid-twenties to middle-aged bankers' nights out.

Carl Snitcher, the chief executive of the Paul Raymond company, says: "At first, a lot of camp media and theatre people came, but then the club became fashionable and the gay crowds were edged out by curious heterosexuals."

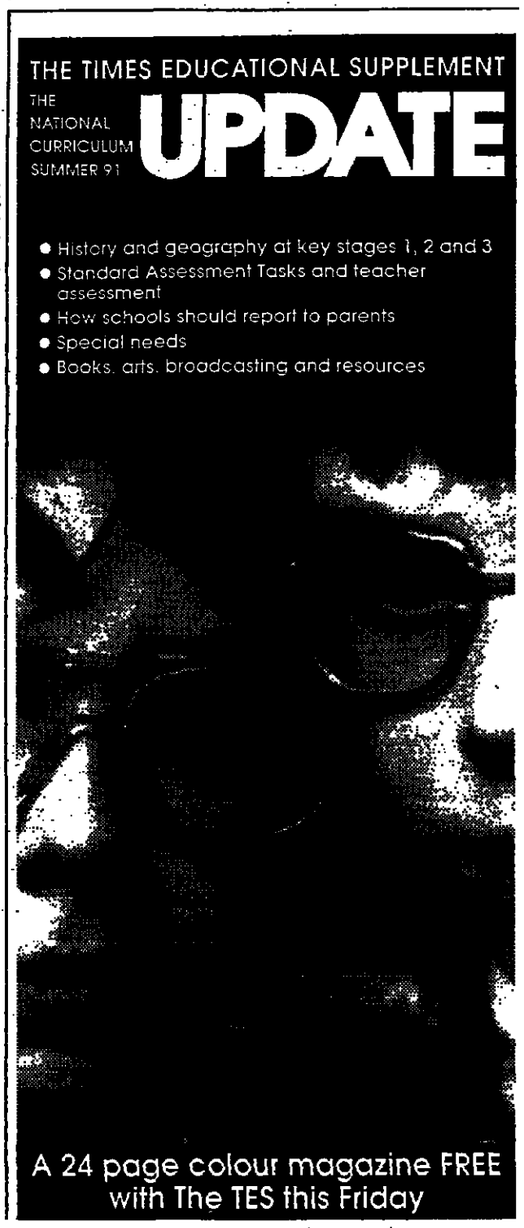
Why do they like it? One City solicitor is sitting at a table drinking and watching Pepper and Sugar, two waitresses wearing feather boas, G-strings and a lot of lip gloss. "The waitresses look amazing, like how most women would love to look. I'd never believe they were men," he says. "I come here because it's a bit titillating and naughty. It's also now acceptable to come here."

Jay, one of the drag artistes, who performed in a cutaway cowgirl outfit with a cleavage rivalling Dolly Parton's, says: "It's good fun. Where else in London can you get a high energy, entertaining floor show like this? It's harmless. If you brought your granny, I bet she'd be back next week."

The club's intention is to recreate the mood of the Weimar republic, when this type of cross dressing cabaret was *de rigueur* among the *demi-monde*. But its somewhat unsophisticated audience would probably not know Christopher Isherwood from Jack Higgins. This is vice, sanitised for suburbia.

LUCI CAVENDISH

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TIMES PAST — THE TIMES

BANKING ON THE EAST

This is not a good year to be founding banks. Yet the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) will be inaugurated in London today with a promised capital of some £7 billion from the 41 countries which, together with institutions of the European Community, are its shareholders. The bank's declared aim is to ease the transition from communism to capitalism in Eastern Europe. This will be achieved partly (40 per cent) by investing in new infrastructure, on the model of the Marshall Plan; partly (60 per cent) by long-term commercial investment in the private sector, on the model of post-war West Germany's *Bank für Wiederaufbau*.

If the EBRD restricts itself to these roles, it should earn gratitude in the East and be a source of pride in the West. But international institutions are a prey to the grandiose aims of their executives. The new bank's president, M Jacques Attali, believes that the ultimate purpose of what he provocatively calls "the European Bank" is to prepare the ground for a federal Europe. In other words, M Attali is a politician as well as a banker. His own career, as a prolific writer and adviser to President Mitterrand, is that of a man keen to progress in French politics. Both the Americans and the Germans are sceptical of him.

Perhaps a charismatic though bumptious personality was needed to get this project going in only 18 months. But what the EBRD now needs are some hard-nosed financiers, with detailed knowledge of the countries in which they will be investing. M Attali's usefulness to the bank depends on whether he can attract the right people, and that in turn depends on whether his staff believe he understands the nature of the task in hand. What ought that task to be?

The EBRD's cardinal principle must be market equity. This means not distorting the market by favouring one enterprise or one branch of industry against another. It means resisting Hayek's "fatal conceit", of believing one knows better than a customer what ought to be produced. Even when political upheavals occur, as they will, the EBRD should not play God in Eastern Europe.

The second principle follows from, but also qualifies, the first. The bank must be equitable rather than egalitarian between countries. If, as seems likely, the lion's share of credit from the EBRD goes to the more market-orientated countries (Poland, Czechoslovakia and Hungary), rather than to the still socialist ones (the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia and Albania), there will be complaints that the bank is favouring the rich states at the expense of the poor. Such investments will reflect the more favourable economic climate in the former countries, and the consequently greater number of promising enterprises there. Seed corn is useless on barren ground, and few places are more barren of prospects than, say, the Soviet Union at present.

While help with infrastructure projects should be apportioned according to objective need, the aim should be to create self-financing utility companies which will guarantee good communications and efficient public services in the future. Unless the EBRD is seen to be fair in assessing tenders for such public works, it may attract the odium that now attaches to the *Treuhand*, Bonn's privatisation agency in Germany's eastern provinces, where allegations of corruption have been made.

To achieve such fairness will not be easy. The EBRD's shareholders are governmental and its activities will be constantly ensnared by the dark politics of the EC Council of Ministers and the Commission. Balance sheets are a fairer guide to market robustness than ballot papers. The bank must manifest the West's determination to ensure that Eastern Europe does not revert to a vicious cycle of intervention, debt and new forms of planning, a cycle not unknown in Western Europe too. But the proof of the pudding will be in the banking. M Attali is a chef on trial.

NEITHER PREVENTED NOR CURED

Nothing has held the headlines for longer than crime. Since the statistical definition of crime in Britain ensures its constant "rise", political gestures such as National Crime Prevention Week should be greeted sceptically. The home secretary, Kenneth Baker, has launched it with a familiar litany of clichés: we all have a part to play, partnership is the key, crime is everybody's business, don't give the thief a chance. The homily's most likely consequences are that villains will feel more self-important, youths will be told how easy it is to steal from cars, the police will demand more cash and reported crime figures will rise again.

A recent Home Office committee drew attention to the danger that this growing publicity does little to reduce crime but does much to increase public anxiety. There is evidence that the British, with one of the lowest crime rates in Europe, are also the most terrified of crime. The consequence of this new attempt to persuade voters that ministers care could well be that even more people will see petty interference with their property as important enough to report to their police station, when they might once have dismissed it as deplorable misbehaviour by the young. The "dutiful" phone call will not help to stamp out crime.

With one third of crime in most areas now car-related and over 90 per cent property-related, the lumping together of petty theft with violent crime should cease. The relationship between rising crime, measured by the Home Office crime survey, and rising ownership of possessions is uncertain but probably close. The more property people possess, the more others will covet it. The richer they are, the more easily they can replace what they miss and the less careful they will be. If the numbers of cars stolen, or which are stolen from, rises as more cars are bought, that is primarily a matter for car owners and the insurance industry to sort out between them. If car buyers are not willing to pay for better security, they can hardly expect the police to expend more effort in futile protection.

Property will be at risk in proportion to the degree of risk property owners are willing to take. Policemen might help themselves, and the crime figures, by refusing to respond to (or record) car crime or petty theft, since clear-up rates are too low to be worthwhile. Wasting police time by reporting petty crime should be discouraged, instead of being treated as a badge of good citizenship. Police productivity, measured in detection rates, is low enough for serious crime without adding unserious crime to the burden.

Fear of crime that is out of proportion to its true incidence may even be a worse social evil than crime itself, and detracts from the fight against serious and violent crime, of which few members of the public have any experience. The chance of suffering an assault, the crime which causes most fear, is less in England and Wales than in Australia, Canada, Germany, France and Switzerland, among many others.

Labour's answer is to fan these flames, with Roy Hattersley's silly talk of "the worst crime wave in our history". Mr Hattersley should be discouraging the government, and his party, from such alarmist nonsense. "People are the victims, they are not the cause," he said. They are the victims of scaremongering as much as of criminals.

The police should concentrate on catching serious and violent criminals, the most effective of all deterrents. If the government refuses to sanction such a shift, the public will rightly blame it for statistics that will continue to show it failing. Crime prevention weeks merely invite trouble.

RICH MEN AND THEIR CASTLES

Which is more enviable: to earn more than £1 million a day; or to live in a stately home, which costs a fortune to maintain, and to own thousands of acres of low-rent, hard-to-sell agricultural land? According to *The Sunday Times*' list of the top 200 richest people in Britain, published yesterday, the latter wins by a wad. The Duke of Buccleuch, whose wealth is tied up in such illiquid assets as ancestral land and paintings, is ranked 31st. Andrew Lloyd-Webber, whose musicals generate a fabulous cash stream, manages only 100th place.

Most people think of wealth as being about freedom to choose one's expenditure, money to be extravagantly spent on a whim. George Michael, the pop singer (135th), recently spent £10,000 on an indoor playroom for his labrador. But little is more restricting than the ownership of a huge estate that has been in the family for generations. Most of its income has to be ploughed back into upkeep. Family tradition prevents it being sold. It may or may not be enjoyable to live in, but nowadays it yields little but anxiety while the owner is alive and death duties thereafter.

The most successful professionals, agents and consultants can, even in these hard times, earn as much as £1 million a year. Their cash flow would be envied by most dukes or landed grandees. They can choose where and how to live and look forward with reasonable comfort to the cash continuing to flow until retirement. They can spend their income without guilt. They can invest in trusts for their children. Yet no professional fee-earner passes through the eye of *The Sunday Times*' needle. The paper states that the total wealth of its 200 top people is £47.3 billion, "equal to 9.3 per cent of Britain's gross domestic product (GDP)". GDP is a measure of income, not of assets. The comparison is unfair: the value of Britain's assets would be vastly higher.

But this is to quibble. The riches of others are eternally fascinating. All wealth is, as Disraeli called earned income, "precarious" and therefore the rise and fall of those who possess it make splendidly vicarious reading. Perhaps the answer is to have two lists, one based on assets, the other on income. The virtue of assets is their security, a sense of rootedness in the land and culture of Britain. Assets are usually more secure than income, though share values can easily collapse, as Asil Nadir of Polly Peck (36th last year, bankrupt now) would attest.

However illiquid the Queen's vast "wealth" may be, she can at least enjoy the palaces, the pictures, the jewels that are handed down to her and that she must hand on in turn. But then so can the tenants of National Trust properties, the custodians of great galleries, the guardians who can daily roam the estates that sit in the names of others. To the extent that money brings power, the power usually comes from the disposing of cash. Rich men can help to finance political parties and thus win political influence. Or they can donate enough money to an art gallery or opera house to end up with a seat on the board. This is why it would be equally fascinating to know about the *really* rich, those with thundering great cash balances to dispose of as they wish each day of the year. As Francis Bacon wrote: "Riches are for spending." Next year, let *The Sunday Times* produce a list of Britain's nicest little earners.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 5000

Perils of rocking the Tory boat

From Mr Alistair Burt, MP for Bury North (Conservative)

Sir, Like many of my colleagues elected in 1983, I recognise that a more than useful factor in that election was the disunity of the Labour party. This was made manifest in two striking beliefs held by some Labour MPs, as I recall.

There was the belief, occasionally expressed publicly, that an election defeat was preferable to sacrificing some self-adjudged ideological purity; and there was the belief that Labour's problems were caused essentially by a lack of resolve in not pursuing a dogmatic party policy with sufficient zeal. The public knew what to make of both arguments, and reacted accordingly.

Fighting the sort of northern seat the Conservative party needs to hold onto in order to retain office, I find it extraordinary that the mischievous goblin of self-destruction is affecting us in precisely the same way. Unless it lies down, the result will be the same.

With a new leader after 15 years, it is not surprising that the electorate should wonder what is to be retained as fundamentally sound, and what improved as the Conservatives seek to be the party for the 1990s. The prime minister needs support from all sections of the party as this short but vital period is undergone, after which the government will have a clear and consistent policy for the future, the constant reiteration of which will bring the public response that all my colleagues want.

Whatever undercurrents existed in the Conservative party in the 1980s among those unable to hold all Mrs Thatcher's enthusiasms as keenly as she did, the essential purpose of her government, which we all supported, was never so seriously undermined as to suggest to the people that we were disunited. We duly reaped the electoral reward, and some of those most guilty now of rocking the boat had pretty good reason to be grateful.

They should show their gratitude, and their political commonsense, by letting Labour's shipwrecks act as their warning.

Yours faithfully,
ALISTAIR BURT,
House of Commons, SW1.
April 14.

Continuing agony of Ethiopian people

From Professor Emeritus Edward Ullendorff, FBA

Sir, Mrs Margaret Daly (April 2) is quite right in thinking that the Eritrean and Tigrean (also Oromo and several other) "rebels" profess outdated marxist versions of society and economics. The fact remains that they are genuine freedom fighters against the Mengistu régime.

You, Sir, published an accurate assessment of the situation (April 2, 1990) under the heading, "Mengistu plays democracy card to save his skin". Mengistu carries no ideological ballast; he is quite simply a ruthless opportunist — not unlike Saddam Hussein.

He is the same man who murdered three earlier heads of state: Haile Salassie, Aman Andom and Taffare Benti (the latter two appointed by Mengistu himself). He is also the same man who had 100 innocent children killed (their bodies left for 24 hours strewn along the streets of Addis Ababa) every night, between Christmas 1977 and Easter 1978, as part of the self-proclaimed *qayy shebber* ("red terror"), as chronicled in detail in your columns on March 22, 1978.

Mengistu may have been forced by constant famines, by the virtual withdrawal of Soviet aid, and by the need to attract Western help to make cosmetic changes in some of his agricultural and economic policies, but he has not returned to the excellent and democratic system of traditional land tenure (*rist*) which had served northern and central Ethiopia quite well over the centuries. Above all, he is still the same callous military dictator who will not set his people free.

In eastern Europe the downfall of marxist rule has swept away all those who had enforced these brutal and corrupt practices. Mengistu and his henchmen continue in power and retain innocent people in prison, while others recently released are generally not allowed to leave the country. Unless he and his closest associates are removed, there can be neither peace nor freedom in Ethopia.

There is at least a hope, though alas no certainty, that with Mengistu's disappearance the centrifugal forces of sundry liberation movements in Ethopia will be deprived of their raison d'être and that this tortured but beautiful land can begin its reconstruction and return, perhaps under a federal structure, to its ancient civilization.

I am, Sir, yours truly,
EDWARD ULLENDORFF,
4 Bladon Close, Oxford.

From Mr Louis FitzGibbon

Sir, For a long time the British Horn of Africa Council has been pressing the European Community to link its overseas development aid to progress towards democracy and observation of human rights. Mrs Margaret Daly's continuing plea for development aid for President Mengistu's oppressive regime is blinkered, to say the least.

It must be obvious to anyone that if development aid is given to a country it releases other moneys, as in Ethiopia's case, for the prosecution of wars and barbaric policies against innocent non-combatant people. It is now too late to retrieve the aid to Mengistu voted at the fourth meeting of the Lomé Convention countries (of which the UK slice was no less than £30.55 million of taxpayers' money), but most certainly any aid to Ethiopia under Lomé V should be immediately reviewed.

I am, Sir, yours sincerely,
LOUIS FITZGIBBON
(Honorary Secretary, The British Horn of Africa Council),
8 Portland Place,
Brighton, Sussex.

From Mr Tewolde Gebru

Sir, Mrs Daly advocates giving "urgent short-term assistance in the form of import support" to the Ethiopian regime, "before a peace settlement is possible". Huge amounts of aid have already been misappropriated by this discredited regime.

Furthermore, without a true democratisation process no economic reforms would have a firm basis on which to function effectively. Giving funds without these reforms would be to risk prolonging the agony of the people of Ethiopia.

Yours etc.,
TEWOLDE GEBRU (Chairman),
Ethiopian Peoples Revolutionary Democratic Front,
211 Clapham Road, SW9.
April 8.

Cautious note on the 'Coligarden'

From Mrs Christina Speight

Sir, Richard Morrison's call for the merging of the Royal Opera and the English National Opera ("Make it the ColiGarden", April 5) is scarcely practical. The most pressing need at the otherwise excellent ENO is to eliminate the worst stupidities of recent productions.

It is clear that the recent fall-off in Coliseum audiences is concentrated amongst subscribers and is directly related to such idiocies as transvestite murderers and suburban housewife witches in *Macbeth* and levitating beds and hyper-active giant clocks in *The Masked Ball*. I know nobody who criticises modern productions as such, but audiences do not like their intelligences insulted.

My personal solution would be to shorten the seasons at both houses — drastically at the Royal Opera House and slightly at the Coliseum. If this were done, the case for longer-term increased funding would be greatly enhanced.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTINA SPEIGHT,
20 Ramillies Road, W4.
April 8.

From Sir Charles Mackerras and Mr David Pountney

Sir, Following the great success of the Royal Opera House production of *The Cunning Little Vixen* last year, we are rehearsing a revival of the same work at English National Opera. The production has an entirely different design, a different atmosphere and ENO's special star, Lesley Garrett, in the title role.

Some would call this a luxury, others a choice. Richard Morrison's opera monopoly would obliterate it; we think a great city like London deserves it and should celebrate it.

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES MACKERRAS
(Conductor),
DAVID POUNTNEY (Producer),
English National Opera,
London Coliseum,
St Martin's Lane, WC2.
April 8.

Coming or going?

From Mr Osman Streater

Sir, Mr Taylor (March 25) should reserve his wonderment until *after* the Government "cuts and runs" or stops "clinging desperately to power", and has consulted the electorate. He may then learn that, whilst a majority of over 100 is "elective dictatorship", a majority of just one seat can represent "The People's Will".

Yours faithfully,
OSMAN STREATER,
Savile Club,
69 Brook Street, W1.

Healing by the blind

From the Director General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind

Sir, I have no doubt that Mr D. I Marshall, who wrote to you (April 4) to protest against a proposal before the RNIB to shut down the North London School of Physiotherapy, will be pleased to learn that our executive council decided today to keep the school open until mainstream physiotherapy colleges, with our help, can provide the support that blind and partially-sighted students require to qualify as physiotherapists.

Contrary to Mr Marshall's fears, a number of the mainstream colleges have indicated to us their readiness to accept visually-impaired students, and we are presently working with them to establish the support that will be needed. The RNIB remains totally committed to encouraging such people to train for this valuable profession.

Yours faithfully,
IAN BRUCE, Director General,
Royal National Institute for the Blind,
224 Great Portland Street, W1.
April 11.

Atrocities in Kashmir

From the Chairman of the Christian and Muslim Coordination Council and others

Sir, Many people in this country are deeply concerned about the tragic events in Kashmir. There are reports that in the last 15 months more than 4,000 Kashmiris have been murdered by the Indian security forces.

Women of 85 and girls of six have been mass-raped (report, April 4) and the security forces have prevented hospital doctors from carrying out emergency treatment. There has been systematic killing of men between the ages of 15 and 45. Neither Amnesty International nor the International Committee of the Red Cross have been allowed into the valley of Kashmir by India. Foreign journalists have been positively discouraged.

Now that the United States and its allies are concentrating on UN resolution 242 concerning the Palestinian problem, we would ask the international community to turn its attention also to an earlier UN resolution, passed on January 5, 1949, which stated "The question of the accession of the state of Jammu and Kashmir to India or Pakistan will be decided through the democratic method of a free and impartial plebiscite".

The world community should not turn a blind eye to this evolving human tragedy of catastrophic dimension.

Yours faithfully,
R. BENNETT, Chairman, Christian and Muslim Coordination Council,
MAX MADDEN (Labour MP for Bradford West),
M. TRAMBOO (Kashmir Council for Human Rights),
K. DRABU (President, Asian Lawyers Conference),
Hillside, Main Road,
Otterbourne, Hampshire.

Ordination of women

From the Reverend D. Galilee

Sir, Mr Geoffrey Kirk (April 3), in his reply to Lady Helen Oppenheimer, says: "We cannot, in the very nature of things, penetrate the divine will to know why the Incarnation was male". If this is the case, then nothing can be asserted as to the appropriateness or not of the maleness of Christ when considering the nature of the ministerial priesthood.

The early Christian fathers do not emphasise the maleness of Christ but his humanity, and this is why the creeds say that Christ was made man (*anthropos* in Greek, *homo* in Latin), as in mankind, and not as opposed to woman.

Catholic, Orthodox and Reformed theology associate the presence of Christ in the Eucharist not with the person of the priest but with the consecrated elements. For Anglicans, all this talk of the icon of Christ is, as the Thirty-nine Articles would say, "a fond thing vainly invented".

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GALILEE,
St Mildred's Vicarage,
Sefton Road, Croydon, Surrey.

From Mrs Ruth Real

Sir, Radical feminists persist in seeing a male priesthood as an insult to women, an effect of sexual polarity. If they hanker after a female Christ (in spite of the fact that God sent his son) and are looking for a second incarnation, merely being ordained will hardly assuage them.

Yours faithfully,
RUTH REAL,
22 Surbiton Hill Park,
Surbiton, Surrey.

Music for all?

From Mrs Carole B. Hill

Sir, The Royal Opera House announces in its latest booking list that Placido Domingo's performances in *Tosca* next July — the only three occasions on which he will be heard at Covent Garden this season — are "not available for public booking". They will be confined to a royal gala, attracting seat prices of up to £350, and to two performances at which priority will be given to full subscribers and members of the Royal Opera House Trust and there will be "an allocation of tickets for purchase to the sponsors".

In 1988, Domingo was reported to have withdrawn from a concert at Wembley because of the high ticket prices. Should he not now consider making a second such withdrawal? Alternatively, perhaps the Arts Council should consider curtailing funds to the Royal Opera House until Jeremy Isaacs runs it for the benefit of the taxpayers.

Yours faithfully,
CAROLE B. HILL,
4a Wood Lane,
Ruislip, Middlesex.

From Sir Andrew Gilchrist

Sir, At a performance in the Haymarket Theatre on February 21, 1765, the cost of a ticket (for a mere piano recital, not an opera) was half a guinea. This (if my computer is in working order) is the equivalent in our modern debased currency of £107.35.

The pianist at that concert was Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW GILCHRIST,
Arthur's Crag,
Hazelbank, By Lanark.
April 8.

An older Russia

From Mr J. Massey Stewart

Sir, Adrian Room (April 2) cited Donetsk as probably the only major Soviet town to have been named after a Briton. Perhaps so, but on the Siberian map there are several place names of British origin which have remained unchanged.

Wardroper Island, off the Taimyr peninsula, the northernmost part of Eurasia, is called after the British family which ran engineering and other enterprises in west Siberia in the 1870s. Herald Island, in the Arctic, east of Wrangel Island, commemorates its discovery in 1849 by HMS Herald; on Wrangel Island itself Cape Blossom denotes HMS Blossom's Arctic voyage in 1827.

West of the Bering Straits are to be found Billings Cape and village, commemorating Commodore Joseph Billings, who had sailed on Cook's last voyage as a cabin boy and later led an eight-year-long Russian expedition through the north Pacific. There are many other examples.

I should like to think that the survival of these British names represents the triumph of historical tradition over chauvinism.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN MASSEY STEWART,
20 Hillway, N6.

From the Glamorgan Archivist

Sir, Adrian Room will be pleased to learn that a district within the city of Donetsk has recently been named Yuzovka in honour of the town's earlier name and its Welsh founder, John Hughes.

A group of descendants of John Hughes himself and descendants of members of his British workforce visited Donetsk last September. They were received most warmly by the people of the city and its institutions. The historical association with a foreigner, John Hughes, can now be acknowledged openly and is regarded by many with interest and pride.

An archivist from the Glamorgan record office accompanied the visiting party in order to consult documents held in Donetsk relating to Hughes's New Russia Company. The information obtained has been added to the record office's Hughesovka research archive.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICIA MOORE,
Glamorgan Archive Service,
County Hall, Cathays Park,
Cardiff, South Glamorgan.

From Mr Bruce V. Jones

Sir, Yuzovka may have metamorphosed through Stalino to become Donetsk, but it still retains some of its British heritage.

The church of St David and St George, which was built for the foreigners' use, is a reminder; and even today Leninskaya Street (maybe also due for a name change) still has some of the so-called "typical English houses of red brick", called the three and four-rouble houses after the original rent charged.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE V. JONES,
Down Ampney House,
Down Ampney,
Cirencester, Gloucestershire.

From Mrs Iryna Terlecky

Sir, Mr Room makes an all-too-common mistake by placing Donetsk, correctly, in Ukraine and then describing it as a Russian town. He did not insult the Welshman, John Hughes, by describing him as an English rather than British industrialist; so why not extend the same courtesy to Ukraine and the Ukrainians?

Yours faithfully,
I. TERLECKY (Secretary),
Association of Ukrainian Women in Great Britain,
49 Linden Gardens, W2.
April 2.

Vital statistics

From Mr Peter Croft

Sir, It is not impossible that "the average British woman is short" (letter, April 10) by the standards of some more numerous group. My researches, at home and abroad, tentatively suggest that your fashion editor is in fact right.

Yours faithfully,
PETER CROFT,
Brook House, 18 Pump Lane,
Stretham, near Ely, Cambridgeshire.

From Mr Barnaby Willitts

Sir, The pessimism which Sir Alan Cottrell (April 11) reports among farmers reminds me of the scientist's comment on statistics, that, "on an average day the average person feels a little worse than average".

Yours faithfully,
BARNABY WILLITTS,
53 Nassau Road, Barnes, SW13.

From Mr E. G. F. Johnson

Sir, This correspondence brings to mind the pre-war pullman car attendant who, when asked by a passenger the size of the average tip, replied that the average tip was $5 but that most people gave more than the average.

Yours faithfully,
E. G. F. JOHNSON,
17 Alders Road, Reigate, Surrey.

From Mr C. A. Newton

Sir, The root of the problem in this correspondence is that about half the population in this country are below average intelligence.

Yours faithfully,
C. A. NEWTON,
40 Birchdale Road,
Appleton, Warrington, Cheshire.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 14: By command of The Queen, the Lord Reay (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport, London upon the arrival of The President of Romania, The President of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and The President of the Republic of Finland and welcomed Their Excellencies on behalf of Her Majesty.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
April 14: The Princess Royal, Past Master, the Worshipful Company of Farriers, today attended the Scottish Approved Training Farriers' Conference. Scottish Farriery Training centre, Easter Bush Roslin, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant for Midlothian (Commodore Sir John Clerk of Penicuik, Bt.).

Mrs David Bowes Lyon was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
April 14: The Princess of Wales, Patron, Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, attended the Malcolm Sargent Birthday Concert at the Royal Albert Hall, SW7.

Miss Alexandra Loyd and Mr Patrick Jephson were in attendance.

Memorial services

The Rev Derrick Greeves
A memorial service for the Rev Derrick Greeves was held yesterday at Westminster Central Hall. The Rev Dr R. John Tudor, Superintendent Minister, officiated and the Rev Roger Greeves, son, read the prayers. The Rev Dilwyn Banner read the first lesson and Canon Anthony Harvey read the second lesson and a gospel.

The Rev Frank Topping read from John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* and Mr Michael Taylor, Editor of *The Methodist Recorder*, read Psalm 84. The Rev Ronald Hoar gave an address.

Mr J.H. Dodd
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr John Harold Dodd was held on Saturday at the University Church of Great St Mary's, Cambridge. The Rev David Conner officiated and the Rev John Eddison read the prayers.

Mrs Diana Rice, daughter, read the lesson, Mr David Prichard, Chairman of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools, read from the poems of Rainer Maria Rilke and Mr Michael Hugill read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland. Canon Derek Blows, Mr George Mathewson and Mr Ian Angus gave addresses.

Finchale Training College, Durham

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, will lay the foundation stone of the new Business Studies Centre on Wednesday, April 17.

Birthdays today

Mr Jeffrey Archer, author, 51; Sir Kenneth Bloomfield, civil servant, 60; Group Captain David Bolton, director, Royal United Services Institute for Defence Studies, 59; Sir Adrian Cadbury, former chairman, Cadbury Schweppes, 62; Miss Claudia Cardinale, actress, 53; Sir Richard Evans, diplomat, 63; Lord Grey of Naunton, 81; Sir Neville Marriner, conductor, 67; Professor C.D. Marsden, neurologist, 53; Sir Peter Menzies, former chairman, Electricity Council, 79; Earl Russell, 54; Sir Maurice Shock, rector, Lincoln College, Oxford, 65; Sir Leslie Smith, former chairman, BOC Group, 72; Mr G.H. Stafford, former master, St Cross College, Oxford, 71; Miss Emma Thompson, actress, 32; Miss Meriol Trevor, author, 72; Dr Richard von Weizsäcker, President of Germany, 71; Dame Susan Walker, former vice-chairman, WRVS, 85; Sir Douglas Wass, civil servant, 68.

Luncheon

Board of Deputies of British Jews
Dr Lionel Kopelowitz, President of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Mrs Kopelowitz, the secretary general and honorary officers were hosts at a luncheon held yesterday at the London Press Centre in honour of Mr Neil Kinnock. Among those present were:

The Ambassador of Israel, the Chief Rabbi and Lady Jakobovits, Lord and Lady Clinton-Davis, Lord Goodman, Lord and Lady Levy, of Manchester, Lord Weidenfeld, Lord Bottomley, Mrs Kinnock, the Hon Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, MP, the Hon Gryvville Janner, QC, MP, Sir Sigmund and Lady Sternberg, Mr Edmund Dell and Baroness Birk, Mr and Mrs Victor Rothschild, Rabbi Dr and Mrs Abraham Levy and Mrs Susan Crosland.

Marriages

Viscount Newry and Morne and Miss L.M. Tregaskis
The marriage took place on Saturday at All Saints, Somerford Keynes, of Viscount Newry and Morne, eldest son of Mr Richard Needham, MP, and Mrs Needham, of Westminster, London, to Miss Laura Mary Tregaskis, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Tregaskis, of Cosham, Hampshire. The Rev Graham Martin officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Rachel Hooper, Jennifer Hooper, Lady Christina Needham and Armyne Needham. The Hon Andrew Needham was best man.

Dr M. Harries and Miss P.A. Hutchings
The marriage took place on Saturday in Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, of Dr Mark Harries, son of the Right Rev Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford, and of Dr Harries, to Miss Priscilla Hutchings, daughter of Mr and Mrs Rodney Hutchings, of Hartley, Plymouth. The Bishop of Oxford and the Rev Christopher Moody officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Naomi Nathan, Miss Clare Harries, Dr Catherine Lant, Miss Bridget O'Conor and Miss Alice Lane. Dr Patrick Charles Stone was best man.

A reception was held at Bishop's House, Oxford, and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Mr R.H. Cunningham and Miss A.A. Godwin-Austen
The marriage took place on Saturday at St James', Papplewick, Nottinghamshire, of Mr Richard Cunningham, son of Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh and Lady Cunningham, of East Knoyle, Salisbury, to Miss Alice Godwin-Austen, daughter of Dr and Mrs Richard Godwin-Austen, of Papplewick Hall, Nottinghamshire. The Rev Keith H. Turner officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Hannah Turner, Mathew Turner and Charlotte Jenkinson. Mr James Chancellor was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in the Caribbean.

Mr A.J. Murley and Miss S.L. Wedd
The marriage took place on Saturday at St Andrew's, Swavesey, Cambridgeshire, of Mr Anthony Jonathan Murley, youngest son of Sir Reginald and Lady Murley, of Radlett, Hertfordshire, to Miss Sarah Lavinia Wedd, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Graham Wedd, of Lolworth, Cambridgeshire. The Rev Dr J.D. Yule and the Rev J.H. Jones officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Louise Wedd and Miss Georgina Newbery. Mr David Holliday was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride and the honeymoon will be spent in the Lake District.

Mr C.A. Beccaria and Mrs V. Money
The marriage took place quietly on Friday, April 12, at Chelsea Register Office of Mr Carlo Beccaria and Mrs Verena Money, née Mann.

Mr D.S. Ewart and Miss J.C. Shephard
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 6, at Kirk Christ, Rushen, Isle of Man, of Mr David Ewart, son of Mr and Mrs D. Ewart, of Hamilton, Scotland, and Miss Judith Shephard, daughter of Rev and Mrs B. Shephard. The Rev Dr Hinton Bird officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Jennifer Shephard and Katie Moss. Mr Andrew Ewart was best man.

A reception was held at the Royal Hotel, Port Erin, and the honeymoon is being spent in Barbados and St Lucia.

Mr C.J. Roharts and Miss E.C. Thompson
The marriage took place on Saturday, April 13, at Holy Trinity, Brompton, of Mr Charles Robarts, elder son of Mr and Mrs Julian Robarts, of Standon, Hertfordshire, to Emma, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Thompson, of Trevor Square, London. The Rev T.M. Hastie-Smith officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Annabel and Miss Amanda Hurst and Miss Jennifer Thompson. Mr Andrew Holderness was best man.

A reception was held at the Hyde Park Hotel and the honeymoon will be spent in Italy.

Prebendary A. Talbot-Ponsonby and Mrs G. Jerrard
The marriage took place at Kimbolton, Herefordshire, on April 8, between Andrew Talbot-Ponsonby, widower of Alice, and Jill Jerrard, widow of John.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R. Butler and Miss R. Simpson
The engagement is announced between Richard, eldest son of Dr and Mrs M. Butler, of Beckenham, Kent, and Roslyn, daughter of Mr and Mrs G. Simpson, of Waterloo, Western Australia.

Mr R.C.Q. Church and Miss V.M. Oatts
The engagement is announced between Richard, youngest son of Mr and Mrs John Church, of San Pedro, Spain, and Victoria, daughter of Major and Mrs Robin Oatts, of Bramleys, Fonthill Gifford, Wiltshire.

Mr S.D. Cooke and Miss G.D.M. Phipps
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Mr and Mrs Donald Cooke, of Shipley, West Sussex, and Georgina, daughter of Mrs Diana Phipps, of Exton, Devon, and the late Mr Michael Phipps.

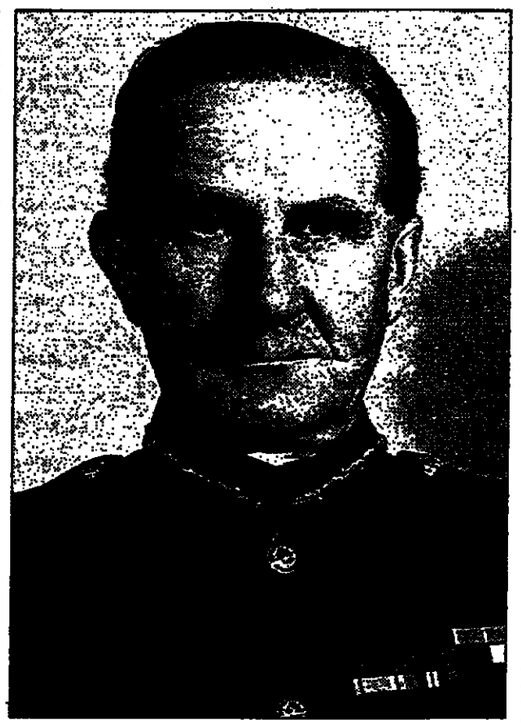
Dr S.J.H. Kelly and Dr Y.L.J. Prosser
The engagement is announced between Simon, son of Dr and Mrs Desmond Kelly, of London, SW14, and Yvonne, daughter of Lieutenant-Colonel, retd, and Mrs John Prosser, of Ascot, Berkshire.

Dr M.I.B. Wood and Dr A.E.L. Freeman
The engagement is announced between Matthew, elder son of Mrs Alastair Murchie and stepson of Mr Alastair Murchie, of Kemble, Gloucestershire, and Amanda, daughter of Mrs David Hornsby and stepdaughter of Mr David Hornsby, of Richmond, Surrey.

OBITUARIES

MAJOR-GENERAL RICHARD LLOYD

Major-General Richard Eyre Lloyd CB, CBE, DSO, former director of Military Intelligence at the War Office, died on April 10 aged 84. He was born on December 7, 1906.



DICK Lloyd worked at the centre of British intelligence throughout the 1960s and early 1970s, first as director of Military Intelligence at the War Office; then as the secretary of the newly-created Defence Intelligence Staff; and finally as the first head of the arms control and disarmament research unit of the Foreign Office.

He was a man of integrity, intellect and judgment, whose incisive mind inspired great confidence. He will also be remembered as someone quiet and thoughtful with a touch of shyness whose rather dry manner went with great charm. His abilities spoke for themselves.

Lloyd was born and bred to serve the Raj. His grandfather was Surgeon General of the Indian army and his father was Lieut-Col W. E. Eyre Lloyd of the 97th Deccan Infantry. He himself joined the Bengal Sappers and Miners in 1930 after being educated at Eton, the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich and Pembroke College, Cambridge. His early service, which was on the North West Frontier, had an intelligence bias, with trekking on foot to Gilgit and other remote outposts in the North of Kashmir and the Himalayas. But the war came and he never had the opportunity to develop a career in India as his forebears had done.

During the war, he served on the War Office staff and in Engineer appointments. He saw active service in Normandy where he was GSO 1 in the 59th (South Staffordshire) Division during the battles for Caen. He then took over 8th Corps Engineers and won his DSO during the Rhine crossing in 1945.

His first intelligence appointment was as GSO 1 (Intelligence) in HQ BAOR in 1946. Thereafter he held a wide spectrum of policy staff appointments until he returned to HQ BAOR in 1954 to head its intelligence staff for three years. Before being appointed director of Military Intelligence (DMI) in the War Office in 1959, he did two years in the Middle East as chief of staff.

He was DMI when Britain was recovering from the Suez debacle; Duncan Sandys was ending national service; Harold Macmillan was restanting British Foreign and Colonial policy with his "wind of change" speeches and attempting to join the EEC; Britain intervened in Kuwait; the Vietnam war was starting; and the Cuban missile crisis broke. There can rarely have been a busier and more franght time during which to be DMI.

It was also the time when Mountbatten was co-locating the service departments in the new unified Ministry of Defence in Whitehall, and establishing, against some opposition, the Defence Intelligence Staff (DIS). Dick Lloyd was due to retire from the army in September 1962 and was an ideal choice as first secretary of the DIS, a post which he occupied with distinction for three years.

By 1966 the Wilson government's policy of maintaining a deterrent stance while seeking effective disarmament led to the establishment of the Foreign Office's arms control and disarmament research unit which Lord Chalfont, as Minister for Disarmament, invited Lloyd to head.

After he retired from government service in 1973, he devoted much of his time to army and local New Forest affairs. He had become a Colonel Commandant of the Intelligence Corps in 1964. His great relaxation was cruising under sail.

He is survived by his wife Gillian, their son and two daughters.

LORD TAYLOR OF MANSFIELD

Lord Taylor of Mansfield, CBE, former Labour MP, died on April 11 aged 95. He was born on September 18, 1895.

LORD Taylor of Mansfield was only 13 when he began work at Sherwood colliery, Nottinghamshire, where in January 1947 he unveiled a plaque commemorating nationalisation. The two events were separated by a long and often bitter struggle to improve conditions in the coalfields which Taylor chronicled in his autobiography *Uphill all the Way*, published in 1973. The title was suggested by his friend and fellow Methodist, Lord Soper.

The book, with an enthusiastic foreword by Lord Wilson of Rievaulx, is distinguished by an account of the fight by active members of the Nottinghamshire Miners' Federation against the breakaway "Spencer" union, formed after the General Strike of 1926 and supported by the mine-owners. Taylor, vice-president of the federation, was refused work in the pits for more than ten years.

Harry Bernard Taylor, generally known as Bernard even when made a life peer, was born in Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire, and educated at a council school. On starting work at the colliery pithead he was paid 6s 8d a week, which rose to 10s a week a year later when he went underground. His first job at Sherwood Colliery, Mansfield, was as a door trapper, letting pit ponies through. On his first day at the mine his mother told him he should join the union straightaway. He later volunteered to collect miners' trade union contributions.

He remained true to his background, living, from the time of his marriage until his death, in a council house in the town where he was born. He was Labour MP for Mansfield for 25 years, winning the seat for the first time at a by-election in 1941. He held the seat at subsequent elections with majorities ranging from 16,000 votes to more than 20,000. In 1942 he was appointed parliamentary private secretary to the coalition government's Minister of Aircraft Production and when Labour swept to power in 1945 became PPS to the Minister of National Insurance. From 1950 to 1951 he was parliamentary secretary to that department. He was made a life peer in 1966.

Taylor was a lay preacher and pacifist. He failed to answer his call-up papers in the first world war and was arrested and sentenced to a term in Wormwood Scrubs. In a speech in his constituency in October 1960 he said that Britain could not ask any other country to get rid of its nuclear arsenal unless it was itself prepared to dispense with such weapons.

He said in his autobiography that his main interest had centred on the abolition of poverty and insecurity, which caused much unhappiness. Among the many duties he performed he served as a member of Mansfield Woodhouse Urban District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and Mansfield Board of Guardians. No-one as old as he was had so regularly attended the House of Lords since the death of Lord Brockway.

His wife, Clara, died in 1983. He is survived by their only son.

BERNARD MURPHY

Bernard Murphy, journalist, airman, boxer and singer, has died in Nova Scotia aged 81. He was born on March 15, 1910.

FEW journalists outside newspaper novels have been as colourful as Bernard Murphy. He was a big man — large enough not to appear outclassed physically when he fought an exhibition bout with Primo Carnera — and possessed a rich basso-profundo voice which entranced various news rooms and even, occasionally, audiences at the old Metropolitan Palace of Varieties in the Edgware Road. He was a test pilot, an amateur boxer of note, a sports car enthusiast with a particular affection for Alvises and a successful publicist. But above all he was a newspaper man whose career embraced almost everything from chasing fire engines to covering a presidential assassination.

In Fleet Street Murphy began as a Press Association telephonist and ended as a newspaper executive. A staff shortage at the news agency found him dispatched to report a fire where his coverage was good enough to warrant immediate promotion to the news room. Working for the PA and later for the *Daily Mail* he reported many of the great events of the 1930s — the crash of the R101 airship, the abdication of King Edward VIII and the Jarrow hunger march where a much-used news photograph showed him striding at the head of the column. When war broke out he had already gained his pilot's licence at Brooklands but inexplicably the RAF offered him a post only in public relations. He rose to flight lieutenant before he managed to talk his way back into the air. He was then over 30 and considered too old to start operational flying and spent the rest of the war testing the last generation of second world war fighters.

After demobilisation he joined *The Star* in London. A. L. Cranfield, the paper's editor, managed to hoist the circulation to above one million and there was even serious talk about whether it could pass the market leader, the *Evening News*. Murphy caught Cranfield's attention through his coverage of the Nuremberg trials and he was brought back to become news editor, a critical post in the circulation war. He was not always happy in this role — Cranfield was a hard task master — although he felt it deeply when *The Star* ceased publication in 1960.

Murphy then emigrated to the United States where he worked for the *Houston Post*. He covered the John Kennedy assassination, saw Lee Harvey Oswald shot by Jack Ruby and was then appointed British vice-consul in Houston. Later he became deputy director of the British Information Services in New York before returning to Houston as director-general of the World Trade Centre. He retired when he was 70 and went to live near his son in Nova Scotia.

He was twice married and is survived by his first wife and their two sons and by the daughter of his second marriage.

MOIRA FORSYTH

Moira Forsyth, stained glass window designer, has died aged 85. She was born on May 5, 1905.

MOIRA Forsyth was the daughter of Gordon Forsyth, the ceramic designer and head of Stoke-on-Trent Schools of Art. Trained in ceramics at Burslem School of Art, she set up a small studio and had a stand in 1926 at the White City Fair, where the Queen bought one of her exhibits. Though she had many orders for her work, the kilns were closed down that year — the year of the General Strike. In the interval, Moira Forsyth took the entrance examination for the Royal College of Art, and won a national scholarship.

There she discovered the beauty of stained-glass design. Not only did she design very many church windows, but she also insisted upon making each window herself, from the cutting and tinting of the glass to the intricacies of the leading.

The most outstanding windows are the east rose window at Guildford Cathedral, the east rose window at St Columba's Church of Scotland, Pont Street, London, the eight armorial windows in the nave of Eton College Chapel, and the Benedictine window in Norwich Cathedral. The first bomb fell on London just behind the glass studios where the Guildford rose window was being made. She had to rescue the cartoons and work at home to complete the glass in sections.

An ardent member of the Catholic Church, Moira Forsyth took particular delight in making windows for Catholic churches. Of special interest are the windows for the Heath End Catholic Church in Farnham, where she lived in the last 15 years of her life, and the transept window on the theme of Abraham and Melchizedek at the Benedictine Abbey in Fort Augustus.

She was given the Queen's Award for Service to the Arts in 1974.

Nature notes



THE WRYNECK

A few wrynecks are coming into south-east England (one was seen near Windsor last week). Although this bird is a woodpecker, it looks like a small striped thrush: it perches across a branch, continually twisting its head to look in every direction, then runs up a sloping bough and turns to sit across it. When it flies on, it flirts its tail in the air before settling once more. It draws attention to itself by its shrill call — "ki-ki-ki-ki", like a very loud-voice nuthatch. Its rarity in Britain means that very few of the arrivals find a mate and breed.

The first blackcaps are also back; they have a rich, rapid song, and move restlessly through the tree-tops. Wrens are the most noticeable singers at the moment, scarcely stopping all day: it is now clear that most of them survived the icy spell in February.

There are white clouds of blackthorn blossom along railway embankments. Wild cherries are coming into flower; birch trees are a misty green, with long catkins dangling among the young leaves. New white flowers that are opening on the ground are greater stitchwort in roadside grass, and delicate wood anemones under oak and hornbeam trees.

DJM

Dinners

Falkland Islands Association
Sir Rex Hunt, President of the Falkland Islands Association, presided at a dinner held on Saturday at Wolfson Court, Cambridge. Lord Buxton of Alsa, Sir Vivian Fuchs, Sir Anthony Grant, MP, and Mr W.H. Fullerton, Governor of the Falkland Islands, were among those present.

Old Wellingtonian Society
Admiral Sir Anthony Griffin was the guest of honour at the centenary dinner of the Old Wellingtonian Society held on Saturday at Wellington College.

School news

Aiglon College, Switzerland
Term begins on April 16. School Guardians are Barbara Reyes and George Sofia. The official opening of the Junior School takes place on May 11, in the presence of the British Consul General of Switzerland and the Syndic d'Ollon. Parents' weekend is May 25-26, Roman Catholic confirmation May 19, Anglican confirmation May 26 and term concludes on June 29, with Graduation and Prize Giving at which the visiting speaker will be the Hon Colin Moynihan, MP, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Energy.

Brentwood School
The Trinity term begins today. The School Choral Society will be performing Mozart's *Coronation Mass*, Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms* and Elgar's *Enigma Variations* on April 27, in the Courage Hall. The new CCF Centre will be opened on May 10, by Brigadier H.H. Kerr, OBE, AFC East Anglia. The Old Brentwood's Society annual dinner will be held on May 24, in the Edinburgh Hall. Half-term is from May 24, until June 3. The Junior School prize-giving will be held on June 28. The guest of honour will be Councillor Alan Earl, Chairman of Brentwood District Council. The Senior prize-giving will be held on June 29. The guest of honour will be the Lord Mayor of London. Sir Alexander Graham, GBE, DCL. Term ends on July 5.

Collingham
The Summer term at Collingham begins today. There will be an Open Evening for parents of first year A level students on Monday, June 24. Dr John Butcher has been appointed Head of Physics. The term ends on Friday, June 28.

Ellerslie, Malvern, Worcestershire
The Summer Term starts today. The Head Girl is Catherine Hutton and her Deputies are Caroline Challens and Sophia Austin. Commemoration will take place on Friday, June 28, at 11am. The Guest Speaker will be Rachael Heyhoe Flint, MBE. At the Commemoration Service, which will be at 2.45pm in Malvern Priory, the preacher will be Mr Stuart Andrews, MA, the former Headmaster of Clifton College. Term ends on June 29. The 1991 Open Scholarship has been awarded to Elizabeth Wilder, of Rose Hill School, Alderley, and an Art Exhibition has been given to Helen Granger, of Beaudesert Park School, Minchinhampton. The Old Girls' Reunion and AGM will be held on Saturday, September 21, at The Bell Hotel in Charlbury. Details may be obtained from the Secretary, Mrs Ann Style, C/o Ellerslie.

Forest School
The Trinity Term begins today. Speech Day and the Old Boys' Cricket Match will take place on Saturday, May 18. There will be a reunion on September 22, for Old Foresters who left before 1955. Any Old Forester who is not on the mailing list should contact the Warden's secretary. Term ends on Friday, July 5.

Haileybury and Imperial Service College
The Summer Term at Haileybury begins today. J.W.B. Rhodes-James (Thomason) continues as Head of School and the Hon J.P.G. Trefgarne (Thomason) as Second Head. R.G.A. Gunn (Trevelyan) is Captain of Cricket. The Rev G.W.F. Lang has retired from the Council and has been succeeded by the Rev P.M. Templeman. Mr J.H. McCorquodale and Mr T.W. Tyrwhitt-Drake have also joined the Council. Mr J. Fairgrieve has become President of the Haileybury Society. The Summer Concert will be on May 24, and Speech Day on May 25, when the guest of honour will be the Right Hon John MacGregor, OBE, MP, Lord President of the Council and Leader of the House of Commons. The Preacher at the Commemoration will be the Right Rev K.J. Woollcombe (OH). The Old Haileyburian reunion for those who entered Haileybury before 1950 will be on June 1. Term ends on June 28.

The King's School, Canterbury
Summer term begins today. Handel's *Messiah* will be performed in the cathedral on Saturday, May 4. King's Week will run from June 27, until July 3. The Open Day will be on June 28, details from the Headmaster's Secretary. Speech Day is Thursday, July 4, when the Anniversary Preacher will be the Right Rev Robert Hardy, Bishop of Lincoln.

Marlborough College
The Summer Term at Marlborough College begins today. John Henry Bothwell (B2) becomes Senior Prefect and James Simkins (Turner House) Captain of School. Open days for parents of girls interested in Sixth Form entry in 1992 will be on April 23 and May 2. The Junior Scholarship examination will take place between May 12 and May 15. Commemoration weekend will be June 1 and 2, when the preacher at the Chapel services will be the Right Rev Robin Woods, KCVO, formerly Bishop of Worcester. The rugby match will be at home on June 26 and 27. Exeat is from May 24 to May 29, and term ends on June 28.

Malvern College
Summer Term begins at Malvern College today and ends on June 29. R. Elias and J.B. Lewin continue as Senior and Junior Chapel Prefects respectively. The Summer Concert is on Saturday, May 18 and the half-term exeat is from May 25 to 28. The preacher at the Commemoration Service on June 29 is Canon Eric James, MA, BD, KFC, Honorary Chaplain to The Queen and Director of Christian Action, and Sir Ian MacLaurin, Chairman of Tesco plc, will present the prizes at Speeches.

Milestone College
Third Term begins today and ends on June 14. The college Gala Evening will be held in St Saviour's Church Hall, Walton Street, SW3, on Thursday, April 25.

Moira House, Eastbourne
Summer Term at Moira House begins today and ends on Saturday, June 29. Mr John McCutchan has retired as a Governor. Claire Watters and Anna Lowndes are the new School Knights. The Summer Concerts are on Friday and Saturday, May 10 and 11. Founder's Day is on Saturday, June 22, and the guest speaker is Mr Hugh Davies Jones, Headmaster, St Andrew's School, Eastbourne, and former Chairman of the Incorporated Association of Preparatory Schools. The annual exchange with Lohne, Germany, is from June 20 to June 29, and the expedition to the Ardeche is from June 30 to July 9.

More House School
The Summer Term commences today, April 15, 1991, and finishes on Wednesday, June 26, 1991.

Oratory School
Summer term begins today. J.W.M. Baugh continues as School Captain. Captain of Cricket is J.D. Clarke and M.A. McDowell is Captain of Boats. Open Day will be on Saturday, May 25, followed by half-term until May 30. The celebrity recital will be given by Tamas Vasary on June 14. Term ends on June 28.

Repton School
Summer Term at Repton School begins today. Commemoration and Speech Day will be on Saturday, May 25, at which the preacher will be the Bishop of Derby and the speaker will be Sir Denis Rooke. There will be meetings for ORs in Yorkshire at Malsis School on April 19 and for those in Lancashire and Cheshire at Pownall Hall, Wilmslow, on April 26. The OR Gaudy (1925-30 and 1962-7) will be on Saturday, June 8.

Royal Grammar School, Guildford
Trinity Term begins today and ends on July 11. The new Science and Technology wing will be opened on April 26, by Mr Paul Bosonnet, Deputy Chairman of BOC. Brian Ray continues as captain of cricket; the match between the Headmaster's XI and an Old Guildfordian XI will take place on June 9, to coincide with the OG weekend. The Summer Fête will be on June 22, the Guildford Sinfonia concert on July 2, and Athletic Sports on July 5. Mr J.K. Boyce (OG) has retired as a Governor and is replaced by Mr J.N. Martin (OG).

Royal Grammar School, Worcester
Trinity Term of our 700th anniversary year begins today. The school will be honoured on Monday, May 13, with the visit of the Princess Royal. Half term will be May 27/28 and term ends on Thursday, July 4. This year the school hosts the annual RGS Cricket Festival from July 8-10. Former pupils, who may have lost contact, are asked to write with details so that the directory may be updated.

St Dunstan's College
Summer Term begins today, April 15, and ends on July 10, exeat being from May 27 to 31. J.A.G. Shaw continues as Head of School, N.J. Andrews is Captain of Cricket and P.A. Chick is Captain of Swimming. The Service of Commemoration of Founders and Benefactors will be held at Southwark Cathedral at 11.00am on Friday, May 24. Open Day with Old Boys' Day is on Saturday, July 6. The 1st XI will play MCC on Monday, July 8. There will be a supplementary entrance examination on Tuesday, May 7, further details of which may be obtained from the Admissions Secretary at the College.

Memorial meeting

Professor A.J.P. Taylor
Mr Pat Thompson presided at a memorial meeting for Professor A.J.P. Taylor held on Saturday in the Chapel of Magdalen College, Oxford. The other speakers were Mr Michael Foot, MP, Professor Robert Skidelsky, Dr Alan Sked and the Rev Dr Arthur Adams. Miss Rosa Howard read *Break Break* by Alfred Lord Tennyson and Mrs Cynthia Kee read from the works of Beatrix Potter. Mr Richard Ingrams played an organ solo and other organ music was played by Mr Nicholas O'Neill and the Magdalen Trio. Among those present were:

Mrs Taylor (widow) and many members of the family, Lord and Lady Longford, the Hungarian Ambassador and Mrs Antall, Lord Briggs (provost, Worcester College), Mr John Griggs, Hon Michael Beloff, QC, Sir Isaiah Berlin, OM, Sir Nicholas and Lady Henderson, Mr Anthony Smith (president, Magdalen College) with the Rev Dr Ernest Nicholson (provost, Oriel College), Dr R A C Parker (Keeper, Ashmolean Museum), Professor Geoffrey Hunt (St Antony's College), Dr M C Hurst (St John's College), Professor G E Aylmer (master, St Peter's College), Professor Geoffrey Barraclough (St Antony's College), Dr K Burk (University College London), Mr Michael Davis and Mrs Nicholson (of The Observer), Professor Kenneth Morgan (principal, University College Aberystwyth) Dr Christopher Haigh (Historical Association), Dr Penny Morris (Historical Association), Mr T. J. Lewis (Blackwells, Retail), Mr and Mrs Roy Avery, Mr J O Bishop, Mr and Mrs Nicholas Browne, Mrs Jean Byers, Mr J D Fastiam, Mr Patrick Gibbings, Mr and Mrs Adam Gledhill, Dr Michael Hinman, Canon Roger Job, Professor James Joll, Mr Robert Kee, Miss Betty Kemp, Canon J R J Kennedy, Mr and Mrs Kenneth Kirk, Professor Karl Leyser, Mr Adrian Liddell Hart, Dr Angus Macintyre, Mr Stacey Meridon, Professor J. Mesquand, Dr Roger Ovle, Dr and Mrs Dusan Radojcic, Mr Derek Robinson, Mr Lewis Rudd, Dr John Stein, Mr and Mrs Bill Stephens, Mr and Mrs William Thomas, Mr Robin Thompson, Mr Brian Thompson, Miss Bridget Thompson, Miss Joy Thompson, Professor Kathleen Tillotson, Professor Gunther Treitel, Professor and Mrs John Vincent, Dr Ralph Walker, Mr and Mrs Geoffrey Whalen and Professor J Z Young.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will visit HMS Campbeltown at Portsmouth at 11.15.

The Princess of Wales, as Patron of Help the Aged, will attend a dinner for industry leaders at the Mansion House at 7.20.

The Princess Royal will attend the Royal African Society conference at St John's College, Cambridge, at 9.30; as Patron of the Butler Trust, will visit the Young Offenders Institution Hollesley Bay colony, Woodbridge, Suffolk, at 11.50; as President of the Riding for the Disabled Association, will attend the Hollesley group fun day at Poplar Park Equestrian Centre at 1.35; and will visit the Thomas Wolsey Special School, Ipswich, at 3.00.

نسخة من الأصل

Wherever you go into a town and are made welcome, eat what is set before you, heal the sick in that town, and say to the people there, 'The Kingdom of God has come near you.'
St. Luke 10:8,9 GNB

BIRTHS

ASSETT - On April 10th, at Poole Maternity Hospital, to Karen (née Jansson) and Ray, a daughter, Georgina Rachel.

FULLER - On April 12th to Eleanor (née Bracdon) and Simon, a son, Peter John, A brother for Edward and James.

McKENNA - On April 11th, to Tory (née Burgess) and Donal, a daughter, Harriet Louise.

MULVANY - On April 11th at Queen Charlotte's, to Pauline and Bernard, a daughter Olivia Aimee.

STOCK - On April 10th a' the Rosie Maternity Hospital Cambridge, to Lindsay (née Gibb) and Robin a son Timothy Charles, a brother for Elizabeth.

MARRIAGES

HAMLET:HOWSON - On Saturday April 6th at the Church of St Francis, Potts Wood, Kent, Timothy, son of Mr & Mrs Richard Hamlet to Judith, daughter of Mr & Mrs Geoffrey Howson.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

BAILEY:THOMAS - On April 14th 1941 at St Cuthbert's, Blackpool, Captain Joseph Edward, M.B.E., M.C., to Eileen, Now at Ladbroke Hall, Warwickshire.

O'REGAN-CALDECOTT - On April 16th 1941 at the Church of the Holy Trinity, Nuwara Eliya, Ceylon, John O'Regan to Joan, daughter of Sir Andrew Caldecott, Governor of Ceylon.

DEATHS

AKERS-DOUGLAS - On April 12th, suddenly after a brief illness, Major Anthony George Akers-Douglas, husband of Dorothy and father of Adrian, Francis and Laura. Funeral private. No flowers please.

BATES - On Saturday April 13th at Bosham, Michael Rodwell Edward, beloved husband of Marianne and loving father of Louise, Caroline and Michèle. Funeral service on Thursday 18th April at Holy Trinity Church, Bosham at 3.45pm. No flowers please but donations to St. Wilfrids Hospice, Donnington, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 2FP.

ELDER - On April 10th peacefully. Olive, widow of John Elder, mother of John and Ruth. Funeral at St Mary's, Potten End, on Friday April 19th at 12 noon.

EVANS - On Wednesday April 10th, suddenly but peacefully. Unity, of Devenant Road, Oxford. Funeral at St Peter's, Wolvercote, Oxford, Friday April 19th at 2.15pm.

GROTRIAN - On April 12th 1991, Edgar William Brent of Twyndlands, Peaslea, beloved husband of Barbara, dear father of Caroline, Andrew and Rosanna, and much loved grandfather. Private cremation followed by service at St. Peter's Episcopalian Church, Peaslea at 12 noon on Wednesday 17th April. Family flowers only.

HARMAN - On April 13th, peacefully at Hammersmith Hospital, Anthony, beloved husband of Claire and much loved father of Oliver, Paul and Emma and great grandfather of Rosemary. A Thanksgiving Service for his life will be held at St Mary's Church, Powerstock, near Bridport on Thursday 23rd May 2.30 pm. Donations if desired to Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o A J Wakely, 91 East Street, Bridport, Dorset.

PALMER - On April 10th 1991, in her 86th year, Muriel Alleen (née Pollard) M.B.E., J.P. Private cremation. A Thanksgiving Service for her life's work at Liddington Parish Church, Swindon, on Monday April 22nd at 2.15 pm. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to be sent to The Prospect Foundation, 5 Church Place, Swindon SN1 5EH. Enquiries (0793) 522797.

PRADERA - On April 10th, peacefully at home in Fulham, José Luis (Joe). Cremation at Putney Vale at 1 pm, Monday April 22nd, followed by Requiem at All Saints, Fulham High Street at 2 pm. No flowers please.

ROBERTSON - On April 11th, 1991 at home, Dr. Ronald Foote Robertson CBE, beloved husband of the late Dorothy, dear father of Alison, Diana and the late Muriel and much loved grandfather. Service in the Kirk off the Greyfriars, Edinburgh on Wednesday April 17th, 1991 at 2.30 pm. Cremation thereafter, private. Family flowers only please.

RUSSELL - On 11th April 1991, Dr Saxon, at home aged 83 years. Dearly loved by all his family and friends. Funeral Wednesday April 17th, service and cremation 3.15 pm at Marlesaton Crematorium, Derby. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to Marie Curie memorial foundation care of Miss G M McDougall, Wilderslowe, 121 Osmaston Road, Derby DE1 2GA.

WALTON - On April 11th, Frederick John Walton of Banbury and formerly of Steeple Aston. Much loved husband of Betty. Funeral Service at Aynho Parish Church on Friday April 19th at 11.30 am. All enquiries to J & M Hodgetts, Albert Street, Banbury. Oxon., tel. (0295) 255494.

YORKE - On Friday April 12th...Sabbatily at home, Richard, beloved brother of Norah Howlett and great friend to many. Funeral at The Oratory, Brompton Road, London SW7, on Tuesday April 16th at 11 am, followed by cremation at Mortlake Crematorium at 12.30. Donations, if desired, to The Neurological Unit, Westminster Hospital, London SW1, in the name of Richard Yorke. Enquiries and flowers to Kenyon's, 42 Marloes Road, London W8, tel: (071) 937-0757.

HOYLE - On April 11th 1991, Alice, at 25 Lilmefield Avenue, Whalley, nr. Blackburn, the only daughter of the late Reverend K.R. and Mrs Hoyle of Blackburn. Service at Whalley Parish Church on Wednesday April 17th 1991 at 10.30 am, followed by cremation. No flowers please by her request, but donations if so desired in lieu may be sent to The North West Lancashire/ Girl Guide Association, 1 Ribblesdale Place, Preston, PR1 3NA. All enquiries to Langshaws Funeral Service, telephone (0254) 824829.

KNOX - On April 11th, at Brechin, Rotha Mary. Funeral private. No letters please.

MORRIS - On 13th April 1991, Joy Morris (née Langton) author. Beloved wife of Anthony Morris, after a long illness. Funeral private.

MOXON - On April 12th 1991, Rev. William John Moxon late vicar of Welsgrave-on-Sowe, Bidford-on-Avon, Bengeworth, Redmarley d'Abitot. Requiem at St. Lawrence Weston-sub-Edge Glos. On Thursday April 18th at 12 noon. Family flowers only donations if desired to St. Lukes hospital for the Clergy.

PALMER - On April 10th, peacefully in her 78th year, Peggy Marian, beloved wife of the late Arthur Palmer, very dear mother of Vanessa, Charles and Marise and mother in law of Alan and Gillian, and adored grandmother of Simon, James, Adam, Sarah, Harry and Abigail. Private cremation. Service of Thanksgiving for her life will be held at St Marys Church, Powerstock, near Bridport on Thursday 23rd May 2.30 pm. Donations if desired to Arthritis and Rheumatism Council c/o A J Wakely, 91 East Street, Bridport, Dorset.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIMES NEWSPAPERS LTD. Recommend that before replying to any advertisement in these columns, please take all normal precautionary steps, as Times Newspapers Ltd. cannot be held responsible for any action or loss resulting from an advertisement carried in these columns.

DOBBS MARGARET - Today (April 15) is my 30th birthday. Would very much like to exchange news with you. Contact Navsup (0865-780854) - Raymond.

McLACHLAN, Archie C. aged 48 suddenly in September 1990, greatly missed by friends and colleagues at Queen Mary College London. Would family, relatives or friends please contact Kevin Schrapel immediately on 071-975-5432 or write to Queen Mary & Westfield College, Mile End Road, London, E1 4NS. A memorial service will be arranged.

BIRTHDAYS

HUTNER - A very Happy Birthday with love from Morag and Mark. - Lodge Park bunnies.X

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - The British Equine Veterinary Association Trust
The Commissioners propose to make an Order regarding the purposes of the charity. Copies of the draft Order can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to 57 Adam's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference 247618-A/11-CDU(Ltd). Objections and representations should be sent within one month from today.

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
KEAL NEWLEY EVAULATIONS LIMITED
Registered Number: 2033799
Trading Name: KEAL NEWLEY EVALUATIONS LIMITED.
Nature of business: Advising Chemists and suppliers. Trade Classification: 40. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 9 April 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver: MIDLAND BANK PLC. Joint Administrative Receiver under Section 48 of the said Act. Any meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a Committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committee by or under the Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are only entitled to vote if:
(a) they have delivered to me at the address above, no later than noon on 25 April 1991, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11(3) of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
(b) there has been lodged with me any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his or her behalf.
Please note that the original proxy signed by or on behalf of the creditor must be lodged at the address mentioned (photocopies (including faxed copies) are not acceptable.
Dated: 9th April 1991
C. HUGHES
Joint Administrative Receiver

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
GROUP LIMITED
Registered number: 1963819.
Trading name: HICKIE BORMAN HOLIDAYS Nature of business: TRAVEL AGENTS. Trade classification: 31. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 8th APRIL 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver: MIDLAND BANK PLC Joint Administrative Receiver: NIGEL GEOFFREY ATKINSON AND ANTHONY RAYMOND HOUGHTON (office holder nos. 1502 and 1662) Address: 65/67 HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON WC1V 6DX

FITMENT LIMITED
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of The Insolvency Act, 1986, that a Meeting of the unsecured creditors of the above named company will be held at Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ on 26 April 1991 at 11.30am for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Joint Administrative Receiver under Section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a Committee to exercise the functions conferred on creditors' committee by or under the Act.
Creditors whose claims are wholly secured are not entitled to attend or be represented at the meeting. Other creditors are only entitled to vote if:
(a) they have delivered to me at the address above, no later than noon on 25 April 1991, written details of the debts they claim to be due to them from the company, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of Rule 3.11(3) of the Insolvency Rules 1986; and
(b) there has been lodged with me any proxy which the creditor intends to be used on his or her behalf.
Please note that the original proxy signed by or on behalf of the creditor must be lodged at the address mentioned (photocopies (including faxed copies) are not acceptable.
Dated: 9th April 1991
C. HUGHES
Joint Administrative Receiver

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
DELTCREST ENGINEERING LIMITED
Registered number: 1648678.
Trading name: DELTCREST ENGINEERING LIMITED. Nature of business: SEWAGE TREATMENT WORKS CONTRACTOR. Trade classification: 25. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 4 APRIL 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver: LLOYDS BANK PLC. Joint Administrative Receivers: RICHARD JAMES REES AND PETER SHELDON PADMORE. (office holder nos 4620 and 5800) Address: PRICE WATERHOUSE SOUTHGATE HOUSE 61 MILLSTONE LANE LEICESTER LE1 5QA.

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
MODULAR TANKS AND SYSTEMS LIMITED
Registered number: 2407397.
Trading name: MODULAR TANKS AND SYSTEMS LIMITED. Nature of business: CONCRETE TREATMENT WORKS CONTRACTOR. Trade classification: 25. Date of appointment of administrative receiver: 4 APRIL 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receiver: LLOYDS BANK PLC. Joint Administrative Receivers: RICHARD JAMES REES AND PETER SHELDON PADMORE. (office holder nos 4620 and 5800) Address: PRICE WATERHOUSE SOUTHGATE HOUSE 61 MILLSTONE LANE LEICESTER LE1 5QA.

To MARTIN JACKSON late of 12 Gillogue Road, Ballymun, Dublin, Republic of Ireland.
TAKE NOTICE that unless we hear from you within 7 days from the date of this notice we shall be entitled to enter judgment against you for the sum of £2,353 plus interest at 8% per annum from 1st January 1991 to the date of judgment and costs in the Queen's Bench Division of the High Court of Justice in London. Unless you pay the amount of the judgment forthwith you will be liable to have your goods seized by the Sheriff of London and Middlesex and sold in satisfaction of the judgment.
Dated this 11th day of April 1991
Martin Jackson
Solicitor for the Plaintiff
Ref: MJ/SW/1
Address for service:
Martin Jackson
Solicitor
Ellesmere House
Ellesmere Road
Weybridge
Surrey KT13 0HL
Tel: 0932 842 222

PUBLIC NOTICES

IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
KEMPSTON HOBBIES LIMITED
ON (RECEIVERSHIP)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the UNSECURED CREDITORS of the above company will be held at the offices of LEONARD CURTIS & CO., situated at 30 Tavistock Place, London, WC1H 9LL on Monday, the 22nd day of April, 1991 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 48 of the said Act.
A list of names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co, 30 Eastbourne Terrace, London, W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 8th day of April 1991
A. COOPER
Director

IN THE MATTER OF FASHION & GENERAL FINANCE LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 16th day of May 1991 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descript

NEW RELEASES

♦ **THE BONFIRE OF THE VANITIES** (15): Brian DePalma's shrivelled, cartoon-like version of Tom Wolfe's novel. Tom Hanks miscast as the Wall Street high-flyer shot down by fate.
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Oxford Street (071-636 0310).

♦ **HIGHLANDER II – THE QUICKENING** (15): Dismal sequel to the 1986 fantasy, with time-traveller Christopher Lambert facing new adversaries. Sean Connery injects a modest twinkle into the gloom.
Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) West End (071-930 6252/7615) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

♦ **IMPROMPTU** (12): Impish comedy about George Sand's tempestuous courtship of Chopin. At times too boisterous; mostly pleasing. James Lapine directs Judy Davis, Hugh Grant.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861).

THE MIRACLE (15): Lukewarm Oedipal whimsy from Neil Jordan about an Irish teenager's romantic fantasies. With Beverly D'Angelo and two fresh teenagers (Niall Byrne, Lorraine Pilkington).
Curzon West End (071-439 4805).

SLEEPING WITH THE ENEMY (15): Sleekly mounted but facile woman-in-peril thriller. Julia Roberts as the abused wife who fakes her own death. Patrick Bergin; director, Joseph Ruben.
Odeon Leicester Square (071-930 6111).

CURRENT

AMERICAN FRIENDS (PG): Nineteenth-century romance between an Oxford don (Michael Palin) and a young American (Trini Alvarado). Slender, charming, tasteful; director, Tristram Powell.
Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7697).

♦ **AWAKENINGS** (12): Tender, heart-tugging tale of neurologist Robin Williams stirring the life force in Robert De Niro and other patients stricken with paralysis
Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Empire (071-497 9999) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U): Gérard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano; director Jean-Paul Rappeneau transforms Rostand's play into magnificent, swashbuckling cinema.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Premiere (071-439 4470) Renoir (071-837 8402).

♦ **DANCES WITH WOLVES** (12): Kevin Costner as the Civil War lieutenant sucked into the Sioux's way of life. Over-reverent, though Costner mounts his directorial debut with aplomb. Winner of seven Oscars.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Odeon Marble Arch (071-723 2011) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Warner (071-439 0791) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

THE FIELD (12): Richard Harris in Thirties Ireland, fighting for his land. Grandly visualised, but windy drama; from the *My Left Foot* team.
Cannon Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

GOLDEN BRAID (15): Paul Cox's fetchingly strange tale of a clock repairer's obsession with a braid of hair, adapted from de Maupassant. Chris Haywood, Gosia Dobrowolska.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443).

♦ **THE GODFATHER PART III** (15): Brooding finale to Francis Ford Coppola's Mafia saga, handsomely staged but lacking resonance. Al Pacino, Andy Garcia, Talia Shire.
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999)

♦ **GREEN CARD** (12): Marriage of convenience becomes unbearable when slobbish Gérard Depardieu moves in with uptight Andie MacDowell. Likeable New York romantic comedy; director, Peter Weir.
Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Plaza (071-497 9999) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324) Warner (071-439 0791).

♦ **KING RALPH** (PG): Thin, boring vehicle for the burly John Goodman — a genial American slob who ascends the British throne. Starring Peter O'Toole.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

JU DOU (15): Lust and revenge in a Chinese dye factory. Extraordinary, compelling drama from Zhang Yimou, director of *Red Sorghum*.
ICA Cinema (071-930 3647).

LIFE IS SWEET (15): Ups and downs of a North London family, depicted by master caricaturist Mike Leigh. Droll, farcical, at times oddly moving; with Alison Steadman.
Gate (071-727 4043) Lumière (071-836 0691).

MISTER JOHNSON (12): Bruce Beresford's engrossing adaptation of Joyce Cary's novel about culture clashes in colonial Nigeria, starring Maynard Eziashi.
Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661).

♦ **MR AND MRS BRIDGE** (PG): Eloquent portrait of an upper middle-class American marriage, from Evan S. Connell's novels. Joanne Woodward, Paul Newman; director, James Ivory.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

♦ **PACIFIC HEIGHTS** (15): Evil tenant Michael Keaton makes life hell for landlords Matthew Modine and Melanie Griffith. Strenuous, implausible thriller; director, John Schlesinger.
Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

Q & A (18): Corruption and racism in New York's justice system. Electrifying performances (Nick Nolte, Armand Assante), though the end result carries less punch. Director, Sidney Lumet.
Warner (071-439 0791).

♦ **QUIGLEY DOWN UNDER** (12): Tom Selleck as a 19th-century sharp-shooter protecting aborigines in the outback. Lazy Aussie Western with a dog-eared script. Laura San Giacomo; director, Simon Wincer.
Cannon Haymarket (071-839 1527).

TATIE DANIELLE (15): Agreeable, satirical portrait of a spiteful old woman, deliciously played by French stage veteran Tsilla Chelton. Director, Etienne Chatiliez.
Cannon Chelsea (071-352 5096) Metro (071-437 0757) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366).

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country.

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London
■ House full, returns only
☑ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

■ **CARMEN JONES**: Classy production, great singing and packed with pizzazz
Old Vic (see Today's Events, below)

■ **CAT WITH GREEN VIOLIN**: The home life of Louis Wain, obsessive cat artist and brother of five eccentric sisters. A disorganised play but wonderful batty times
Orange Tree, 1 Clarence Street, Richmond (081-940 3633) Underground: Richmond. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 45mins. Closes May 4.

☐ **CORIOLANUS/THE WINTER'S TALE**: Two Bogdanov productions for English Shakespeare Company; a bewildering *Coriolanus* set in Eastern Europe; a more rewarding *Tale*. Strong performances by Michael Pennington in both.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (071-836 6404). Underground: Covent Garden. *Coriolanus*: Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm, mat Wed, 2.30pm; *Winter's Tale*: Thurs-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Running times: 3hrs 15mins.

☐ **THE CURE AT TROY**: Seamus Heaney's version of Philoctetes for Field Day. A raw drama of trust, duty and betrayal that transcends the ages from Ancient Greece to Ulster.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (071-328 1000). Underground: Kilburn. Mon-Sat, 8pm. Running time: 1hr 20mins. Closes April 27.

☐ **DANCING AT LUGHNASA**: Brian Friel's haunting memory-play sets Donegal Catholic prudery up against pagan ecstasy: Alec McCowen and Dublin's Abbey Theatre.
Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1044). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins.

☐ **THE HOMECOMING**: Warren Mitchell leads the pack of males seducing and seduced by Chane Lunghi in Peter Hall's Pinter revival.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

☑ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL**: Peter O'Toole back playing the drunk-about-town columnist for a limited run.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri, 8.30pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins. Closes May 25.

☐ **LOVE'S LABOURS LOST**: Enchanting production by Terry Hands: Ralph Fiennes and Amanda Root lead the quartet of couples.
Barbican, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Underground: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm. Running time: 3hrs.

■ **LULU**: The charismatic Joanne Whalley Kilmer as Wedekind's voracious sex goddess littering the salons of Europe with corpses.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 4404). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. Running time: 3hrs. Final week.

☑ **MY LOVELY . . . SHAYNA MAIDEL**: An Auschwitz survivor meets the American half of her family: Anita Dobson in an accomplished and powerful play.
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (071-836 6111). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 3pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

☐ **OUR OWN KIND**: Charlotte Coleman as a bright school girl caught up in a racial murder: Roy MacGregor's promising first play with excellent girl-talk.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (081-743 3388). Underground: Shepherds Bush. Mon-Sat, 8pm. Running time: 2hrs 20mins. Closes April 27.

☐ **RICK'S BAR CASABLANCA**: Leslie Grantham in the play the film was based on. Thin production that certainly "doesn't amount to a hill of beans".
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (071-867 1119). Underground: Charing Cross. Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.45pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 6pm. Running time: 2hrs 5mins.

☑ **SILLY COW**: Ben Elton's awkward collection of one-liners, centred around Dawn French as a ghoulish tabloid journo.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.45pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins.

☐ **TIMON OF ATHENS**: David Suchet suave and sulphurous in a modern-dress production by Trevor Nunn that enlivens Shakespeare's blank spots.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 1.30pm. Running time: 3hrs 15mins. Final week.

☑ **THE TRIAL**: Antony Sher's powerfully restrained hero is truer to Kafka than Berkoff's lurid production.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 2252). Underground/BR: Waterloo. Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.15pm. Running time: 3hrs.

☑ **TWELFTH NIGHT**: Peter Hall's production stresses comedy and motive: with Eric Porter, Dinsdale Landen, David Ryall.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Underground: Embankment. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm. Running time: 2hrs 40mins.

■ **TWO SHAKESPEAREAN ACTORS**: John Carlisle and Anton Lesser play rival Thespians in Richard Nelson's highly entertaining play about an Anglo-American culture-war.
The Pit, Barbican Centre (as left). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm. Running time: 3hrs.

☐ **WHAT THE BUTLER SAW**: Incest, assault and bisexual junketing preserved in the aspic of Joe Orton's wit. Not quite a top-class production but worth seeing.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 6pm and 8.40pm. Running time: 2hrs.

LONG RUNNERS: ☑ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ☐ Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) . . . ☑ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ■ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ■ Five Guys Named Moe: Lyric (071-437 3686) . . . ☑ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) . . . ☐ The Rehearsal: Garrick (071-379 6107) . . . ☑ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . . ☐ The Rocky Horror Show: Piccadilly (071-867 1116) . . . ☐ Run For Your Wife: Duchess (071-836 8243) . . . ☐ Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . . ☐ A Slice of Saturday Night: Arts (071-836 2132) . . . ☑ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ☐ The Woman In Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

TODAY'S EVENTS

JONATHAN BURROWS GROUP: Five dancers from the Royal Ballet perform *Stoics*, a new work by Jonathan Burrows set to music for piano, organ, drums and old 78 RPM gramophones.
The Place, Duke's Road, London WC1 (071-387 0031), 8pm.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL STRING QUARTET COMPETITION: The competition winners (not known at the time of going to press) will give the world premiere of Quartet No 3 by Polish composer Andrzej Panufnik tonight, together with a joint performance with the other finalists. Sir Yehudi Menuhin conducts.
Barbican Hall, Silk Street, London EC2 (071-638 8891), 7.45pm.

CARMEN JONES: The second pair of principals, Sharon Benson and Michael Austin, make their debuts in the leading roles tonight. Simon Callow directs a cast of 52 in the first London staging of Hammerstein's Deep-South musical, based on Bizet's opera.
Old Vic, Waterloo Road, London SE1 (071-928 7616), 7pm.

MOSCOW SOLOISTS: The distinguished viola player Yuri Bashmet gives the British premiere of Vassili Lobanov's Viola Concerto and leads the Soloists in Tchaikovsky's Serenade in C, Shostakovich's Chamber Symphony in C minor, Op 110a and Schnittke's Monologue for viola and strings.
Queen Elizabeth Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.45pm.

OXFORD PLAYHOUSE: After a four-year closure, the theatre house re-opens with a new production of *Same Old Moon*, written by Ireland's Geraldine Aron and directed by Jenny Killick, who recently directed David Edgar's *Shape of the Table* at the National.
Playhouse, Beaumont Street, Oxford (0865 247134/3), 7.30pm.

OSLO PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA: The OPO's principal conductor Mariss Jansons conducts Brahms's Second Symphony, Wagner's Prelude and Liebestod from *Tristan und Isolde* and Ravel's *Daphnis et Chloé*.
St David's, The Hayes, Cardiff (0222 371236), 7.30pm.

OPERA NORTH: The spring season opens with a restaging of the Ian Judge production of Gounod's *Faust*, with Arthur Davies as the tormented hero and Anna Dawson as Marguerite. David Lloyd-Jones conducts the production, which is sung in English.
Grand Theatre, 46 New Briggate, Leeds (0532 459351), 7.15pm.

Satire lost in the canapés

TELEVISION

Tonight at 8.30/ Jeeves and Wooster
BBC 1/ITV

DAME Margot Asquith once left a party with a polite word to the host: "Don't think it hasn't been charming, because it hasn't." After seeing *Hands Across the Sea*, last night's first Noël Coward one-acter in the Joan Collins season **Tonight at 8.30** (BBC 1), this caustic remark sprang unbidden to mind. Unfortunately, only part of the reason was that poor hos pitality is the subject of the play.

Coward got the idea for *Hands Across the Sea* from cocktail parties with the Mountbattens. "People used to arrive that nobody had ever heard of and sit about and go away again . . . We all talked among ourselves." In last night's production, Joan Collins played the Gertrude Lawrence role of "Piggie", the hectic socialite wife of a naval commander, who happily welcomes a non-descript couple she met in Malaya, but neglects the first rule of the hostess, which is to establish the identity of your guests.

What is funny about the play (and Rattigan said it was "just about the best short comedy ever written") is not the mix-up about these people being mistaken for somebody else – it is the way they are treated, whoever they are. Piggie's friends show off in front of the poor old Wadhursts, lean across them to get at the ever-present telephone, and never bother to ask them questions except for effect. "Did you ever know Wally Smythe?" "No, I'm afraid not." "You didn't miss much."

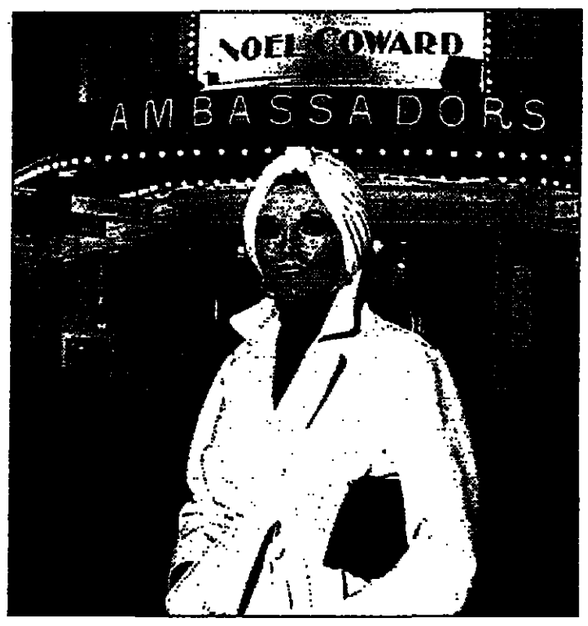
Hands Across the Sea should make you squirm at this behaviour, but strangely last night's production never did. Staged as if for theatre (and with audience laughter greeting quite ordinary lines), it never really harnessed the satire, with the effect that the intricate stage-business, involving umpteen telephone conversations, often got the better of the dialogue. Also, the camera tended to follow the action of the prattling hob-nobbers (notable among them Siân Phillips and Nickolas Grace), when the people we would more naturally have looked at were the cheerfully ignored Miriam Margolyes and Bernard Cribbins as the Wadhursts.

For Joan Collins, however, it wasn't a bad play with which to start the series. As John Lahr has pointed out, Piggie's mixture of kind impulse and monstrous egocentricity ("I had to be sweet to some people . . . I think they had a heavenly time," she purrs afterwards), is very much the we-must-entertain-our-dear-little-public behaviour normally associated with the mega-famous. In fact, the writer's self-satire is surely obvious. When Piggie's husband suggests, "Perhaps they'd like to watch me having my bath!", one can't help thinking of Noël himself, graciously giving interviews in his silk pyjamas.

Jeeves and Wooster (Granada) returned for a new series last night with a much-truncated version of *The Code of the Woosters*. Stephen Fry and Hugh Laurie are now immovably identified with the roles, having quickly banished any vestigial thoughts of Dennis Price and Ian Carmichael. Laurie is such a good interpreter of Wodehouse that he doesn't seem to be interpreting at all. If he were ever down on his luck, he could tour the country, giving readings.

I grieved for the missing bits of *The Code of the Woosters* – Fink-Nottle's leather notebook, the episode of the policeman's helmet. However, adapter Clive Exton cleverly made amends by introducing some nice new material, including a sepia scene at the decorous club for butlers – the Junior Ganymede in Curzon Street – of which Jeeves is a member. While the butlers swapped progress-reports ("My man's coming along quite nicely"), one half expected to see Kazuo Ishiguro in the shadows of this brown study, making notes for *The Remains of the Day*.

LYNNE TRUSS



Joan Collins: mixing kindness and egocentricity as Piggie

DANCE

10 for 1
The Place

LONDON Contemporary Dance Theatre's season in tribute to its late founder, Robin Howard, continued all last week with further premieres and revivals. The biggest was *In Dream I Dream A Dream*, another of Kim Brandstrup's abstract adaptations of plays, in this instance Calderon's *La Vida Es Sueño*.

Brandstrup fills the stage with agitated movement that looks as if it ought to mean something, but he leaves the who, what and why vague: hints of good and evil struggling for a young woman. There is more characterisation in Fotini Dimou's costumes than in the choreography. John Lunn's score, played offstage, reduces its musicians to the effect of a mindless synthesizer banging relentlessly away.

The most unexpected of the premieres was *The Fall*, a film by the dancer Darshan Singh Bhuller about Celeste Dandeker, a former member of LCDT who suffered a serious injury and now uses a wheelchair. Her courage and the extent to which she can still move expressively make it touching, but the *Desert Island Discs* format tails off into irrelevance.

Jane Dudley revived her solo *Harmonica Breakdown* and Richard Alston his early duet *Something To Do*: both of them short works but making a neat point in movement. Yael Flexer, a senior student at the London Contemporary School, continued that tradition with her *Tango*, a duet cheekily and amusingly combining gestural choreography, a short text taken from Jorge Luis Borges, and music by Karni Postel for solo cello (with apt allusions to Stravinsky and Bach), vigorously and effectively played by Sian Bell.

The most unusual and satisfying of the new works remains *Rikud* (repeated from the first night programme), not least because it stretched the dancers' technical abilities and also their sense of theatrical presentation. Dan Wagoner's *White Heat* uses equal energy, but suffered from being seen too close; it needs the distance of a larger theatre with orchestra pit.

The short season certainly showed something of the diversity of LCDT's work over the years, although several aspects inevitably were unrepresented. Wisely, it did not try to suggest where the company might go from here: that will be something for the new director, Nancy Duncan, to indicate after the summer.

JOHN PERCIVAL

POP

808 State
Academy, Brixton

THE days of the Acid House party are long gone, but the full impact of rave culture on the mainstream is still only beginning to be felt. Although the rock arm of the dance generation has produced a slew of bands in a comfortingly familiar mould – the Stone Roses, Happy Mondays et al – a more radical breed of performance art has grown out of the club scene.

Here the guitarists and singers have been replaced by a new technocratic class of heros: producers, sound mixers, DJ's and keyboard boffins. Their performances are not so much "shows" as "events" – grand, extended displays of technological pyrotechnics that create the right ambience for participation by the crowd.

At Brixton the Mancunian quartet 808 State presided over an awesome display of sound and lighting hardware. It was like entering a battle zone. A barrage of lasers pierced the air like tracer fire against the background of constantly flickering white lights. The PA rig, which blasted out from all corners of the hall, delivered a relentless pneumatic beat and a bass sound that could fell trees.

Behind the incandescent light-show, which, during "In Yer Face" looked like a Fourth of July fireworks display gone mad, the "performers" of 808 State were all but invisible. Toiling diligently behind their neat keyboard and record-deck plinths, they produced rigid but propulsive instrumental sound-tracks. Typical of these was "San Francisco" with its jaunty melody and rhythmic bounce overlayed with the sort of gadget-produced sounds that emanate from amusement arcades.

The only point at which the show became at all conventional was when the rapper MC Tunes took the stage, his high-energy renditions of the hits "Tunes Splits the Atom" and "The Only Rhyme that Bites" briefly pulling proceedings into sharper focus.

For the most part though, it was entertainment by remote control, an updated enlargement of the disco aesthetic. As such it was a strange, dazzling, disorientating experience which rather made the concept of performing musicians redundant. The audience danced throughout in that relaxed, lolloping bounce that is the baggy generation's looser *equivalent to punk's pogo routine*, and happily carried on long after 808 State had finished.

DAVID SINCLAIR

THEATRE

Weddin's, Wee'ins and Wakes
Drill Hall, Bloomsbury

AFTER the subtle, glancing allusions of Seamus Heaney's *The Cure at Troy*, performed by Field Day, the Belfast group Charabanc serves up a couple of raw slices of Ulster life. The first of these two short pieces by Marie Jones, **Weddin's, Wee'ins and Wakes**, looks at a working-class Loyalist community on a Belfast street. The approach is not so much political as sociological: the main characters are a midwife and an undertaker who serve as coordinates for a survey of the Orange way of birth, marriage and death.

The fierceness of this culture is conveyed not just by vowels as impenetrable as road blocks, but also by rhymed gossip with the lethal bite of crossfire, and an implacable hostility towards sex. Peter Sheridan's production is community theatre: vigorous, yes, but unwilling to leaven its naked presentation of life with analysis, and so only occasionally able to cross over from Belfast to London.

Much more interesting, because it is a play and not a parade, is the second piece, **The Blind Fiddler of Glenadanch**. Here a genuine dramatic conflict, between a socially ambitious Catholic mother and a father loyal to his native Irish culture, is seen through the eyes of their confused adolescent daughter Cathleen (finely played by Sheila McWade). The mother is willing to sacrifice her roots both for business (they run a pub with a mixed clientele) and to turn her daughter into a middle-class Catholic with a house in the Cavehill Road.

For Cathleen looking back after her father's death, it is his story-telling, dancing and drinking which represent the vital thread she has lost. Sean Kearns, condemned to immobility in the first piece, comes into his own in the telling of bloody bedtime stories and wonderfully nimble jigging. Brendan Gunn's infectious fiddling enforces what is undoubtedly a partial view of the warmth and expressiveness of traditional Irish culture. Nonetheless, an enjoyable one.

HARRY EYRES

Arts features, page 13

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 20

TRAPEZIUM

(c) A trapezium is a quadrilateral with two parallel sides. If the parallel sides have lengths a and b and the distance between them is h, the area of the trapezium equals ½h(a + b).

FIBONACCI

(a) Leonardo of Pisa, known as Fibonacci (son of Bonaccio), was one of the first European mathematicians to emerge from the Dark Ages. He lived about 1170-1250. Worked on Euclidean geometry, best remembered for his sequence of Fibonacci numbers, important for computers.

GOLDBACH'S CONJECTURE

(c) In 1742 the German Christian Goldbach conjectured that every integer greater than 2 is the sum of two primes. Neither proved nor disproved, Goldbach's Conjecture remains one of the unsolved problems in number theory.

TRAVELLING SALESMAN PROBLEM

(b) How to visit a number of towns, returning to the starting point, in a way that minimises the total distance travelled. The problem is to find a manageable algorithm that works.

CHESS MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

In this position, from the game Girsch – Man, Canada 1963 can you see how White wins immediately?

Solution: 1 Qa4+! Qxa4 2 Nc7+ Kf8 3 Rxd8 mate

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 071 836 3161 cc 071 240 5258 cc 1st Call 071 240 7200 (24hr / 7 day) 071 379 4444
ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA
No Perf Tue't.
Tomor 8.00 SALOME
Wed 7.30 PETER GRIMES

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 071 240 1066 / 1911. Standby info 836 6903.8 CC 48 stalls seats avail on the day.
THE ROYAL OPERA
Tomor 6.30 Boris Godunov
"Theatrical Thunder and Lightning" F.T. This from £20
THE ROYAL BALLET Tue. 7.30 Agon/A Month in the Country/Requiem

SADLER'S WELLS 071 278 8916 Fing Call 24 hrs 7 days 240 7200 The Rambert Youth Studio Theatre in
OCTOBER'S CHILDREN
From Tomor to 20 April.
Eves 7.30. Wed & Thur Mat 2.00. Sat Mat 2.30

THEATRES

ADELPHI 071 836 7611 CC 071 793 1000/071 379 4444 First Call 24hr cc 071 497 9977 (no big fee) Gtps 071 930 6123
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ME AND MY GIRL
THE LAMBETH WALK
MUSICAL
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"THE RAPTEST SHOW IN TOWN" Sunday Express

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ENGLISH SHAKESPEARE COMPANY
THE WINTER'S TALE Tom't. Tomor, Wed, Sat 7.30pm
Mat Wed 2.30pm
CORIOLANUS Thu. Fri 7.30pm, Sat 2.30pm
"Distinctive, populist and bardalicious" Ind.

AMBASSADORS 071 836 6111/1171cc Also CC (no big fee) 071 793 1000 (Gtp fee) 071 379 4444/497 9977
Audio Dubrow Peter O'Brien
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"Theatre to make the heart dance" Times
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"...brings the audience to its feet, and rousing its approval" D Mail
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HOWE GUAYLE
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"CRACKING ROMP" D.Tel
Mon-Fri 8pm. Wed mat 3pm. Sat 6pm & 8.30

APOLLO VICTORIA 08 071 828 8665 cc 630 6262 Grps 828 6188 cc 379 4444/497 9977 071 793 1000 Grps 930 6123 Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.0
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Lyrics by RICHARD STILGOE
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
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The HOMECOMING
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Directed by Peter Hall
Eves 8.0 Mats Wed 3.0 Sat 5.0

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Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt
A SUPERB EVENING
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MILES ANDERSON
THE REHEARSAL
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BEST COSTUME DESIGN
HAZEL CORKER
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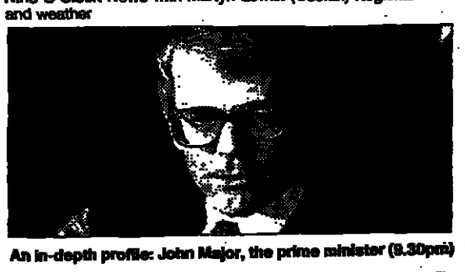
LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 (cc no big fee 071 836 3464) Theatre Chery's comedy of the week by Ronnie Corbett
081 741 8701 GHOSTS by Henrik Ibsen 8pm

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252 Grps 071 620 0741; 24 hr cc bkg fee 071 497 9977
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THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS
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BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News
9.05 *Gloria Live. Gloria Hunniford launches her new daily magazine slot* with a topical mix of interviews. This morning's guests include Dr Estelle Phillips who discusses her research into mothers-in-law; comic Des McHale and Flyn, a chimpanzee that paints 9.50 Dish of the Day. Daily cookery slot
10.00 News and weather 10.05 Playdays (r) 10.25 Bunyip. Cartoon about a mythical aboriginal creature (r) 10.35 She's the Sheriff. Comedy series starring Susanne Somers as a bubbly blonde sheriff (r)
11.00 News, regional news and weather 11.05 People Today. Focusing on Crime Prevention Week which starts today, the programme concentrates on burglary
12.00 News, regional news and weather 12.05 Antiques Roadshow Gems. Archive material from the popular antiques show, itemising the various essential objects needed for a period dinner party 12.20 Scene Today. Topical live chat and music from Pebble Mill. The guests include Michael Palin, Gloria Estefan and Deborah Moggach 12.55 Regional News and weather
1.00 One O'Clock News and weather
1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Turnabout. Frenetic quiz show for agile minds
2.15 Starsky and Hutch: Survival. Classic cardigans and action from the Seventies heart-throbs. Hutch's car is forced off the side of a mountain by a hit-man hired by the racketeer they are investigating (r) 3.00 Head of the Class. Comedy from America revolving round a class of geniuses
3.25 Bazaar. A mixture of handy hints on gardening, cooking and knitting, mixed with story-telling and chat. Presented by Nerys Hughes
3.50 Henry's Cat (r) 3.55 Quack Chat Show (r) 4.10 Cuckoo Land. A fantasy adventure series from New Zealand about a travelling family who discover Cuckoo Land, where all is not what it seems *4.35 Thundercats*
4.55 Newsround 5.05 Blue Peter. Magazine for young viewers. (Ceefax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather
6.30 Regional News Magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours (r)
7.00 Wogan. The guests include Frank Stallone, brother of Sylvester, and French actress/pop star Vanessa Paradis
7.30 Family Matters. Three single people discuss why they have chosen a life without a partner, expressing the view that they have just as much fulfilment as those with a family. Though sometimes they profess to being lonely, is it not society that forces them to feel they are doing something wrong? John Humphrys hosts the discussion
8.00 Takeover Bid. Bruce Forsyth is in his bargain basement, giving away more prizes in his comedy quiz show
8.30 Taking the Floor. The dreary comedy for the *Come Dancing* crowd reaches its conclusion with the Latin American dance competition. (Ceefax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather



An in-depth profile: John Major, the prime minister (9.30pm)

9.30 Panorama: The Major Question. Michael Crick's in-depth profile of John Major focuses on the important issues he is faced with, including the poll tax, the economy and date of the next election
10.10 Law and Order. American crime drama which takes us from police investigations to the court-room. Tracing a gunman is a routine problem for Detectives Greevey and Logan (George Dzundza and Christopher Noth), but the assistant district attorneys (Michael Moriarty and Richard Brooks) have difficulty in deciding the moral parameters of self-defence when the case goes to trial. Northern Ireland: 29 Bedford Street
11.00 Great Expectations: Health, Who Cares? Writer and campaigner Angela Phillips questions how women are treated by the National Health Service, and argues that its male-dominated philosophy alienates women
11.30 Balloon. *Sue Beardsmore takes a series of flights in a balloon across some of the spectacular parts of the Midlands (r)*
12.00 Weather

BBC 2

6.35am Open University: Education: Old Dog, New Dog 7.00-7.35 Working Mothers
8.00 News 8.15 The Violin Maker. Instrument maker Jim McKillop meets Stephane Grappelli (r) 8.20 Who's A Pretty Girl Then? Competition to find Miss Pears of 1993 (r)
9.00 Film: Mexican Spitfire (1940, b/w). One of a series of short comedy features about a businessman (Donald Woods) and his *tempestuous Mexican wife (Lupe Velez). The plots are fairly* incoherent, but gently amusing. Directed by Leslie Goodwins
10.05 Film: Hollywood Hotel (1937, b/w). An overlong musical comedy with Dick Powell, Rosemary Lane and Lola Lane, partly salvaged by its musical content — the Benny Goodman Orchestra and the song "Hooray for Hollywood". *Directed by Busby Berkeley*
11.50 Film: Way Out West (1937, b/w). Classic comedy from Laurel and Hardy who head West to deliver the deeds of a goldmine to an heiress. Memorable for the "Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia" song-and-dance routine. Directed by James W. Horn
12.50 The Ship That Never Returned. A documentary about Harry Whitehouse who was forced to leave his job after 35 years when a lighthouse on the coast of Bardsey in North Wales became automated 1.20 Bertha (r) 1.35 The Taste of Health. The inspiration needed to cook healthy meals (r)
2.00 News and weather followed by US Masters Golf Highlights
3.00 News and weather followed by Songs of Praise (r). (Ceefax)
3.35 Canvas. George Melly examines works by Toulouse Lautrec (r)
3.50 News, regional news and weather
4.00 Call My Bluff with Robert Robinson (r)
4.30 Plunder. Pamela Stephenson raids the BBC archives for her *favourite television moments*
5.00 News followed by RSPB Birds of the Lake (r)
5.15 Film: Lisbon (1956). Glossy thriller starring Ray Milland, who also directed, as a former US Navy captain who is sent to help rescue a kidnapped industrialist from behind the Iron Curtain
6.45 DEF II begins with The Fresh Prince of Bel Air 7.10 Dance Energy — Remix
7.40 Open Space: Flying Fur.
● CHOICE: "Rich bitch", says the caption under a picture of a woman swathed in furs. "Poor bitch", says the caption under the trapped fox, clearly in its death throes. And that, give or take the odd comment, is the case for the animal rights movement in this week's *Open Space*. But that is only to be expected because tonight isn't their night at all. The platform belongs to prominent fur trader Henri Kleiman, and those who, like him, believe that a coach and horses, if not an entire cavalry regiment, can be driven through the arguments put forward by the "hands off our furred and feathered friends" brigades. For one thing, the Kleiman faction allege that it's not so much love of animals as hatred of humans that fuels the animal rights machine. For another, it's the soft toys of childhood that give animals the cuddly image that gets in the way of sensible conservation. The debate, as always, continues

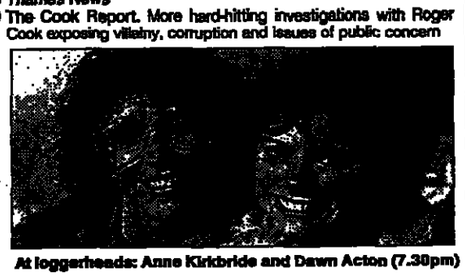


Trading in the face of adversity: furrier Henri Kleiman (7.40pm)

8.10 Horizon: The First Americans.
● CHOICE: When is a geofact (rock chipped by nature,) a geofact and not an artefact (object shaped by man)? Shamelessly oversimplified for the benefit of laymen watching tonight, this is the question that keeps cropping up during the course of Simon Campbell-Jones's intriguing examination of some new theories that might answer the question that has long puzzled archaeologists and geneticists: how were the Americas colonised? Why, in other words, was the New World populated only *11,000* years ago when the rest of the world is thought to have been populated 30,000 years earlier? Ancient geofacts (or artefacts?) may not be the most exciting things for a camera to focus on — one lump of chipped flint looks much like an another to the uninitiated — but as clues in *The First Americans*, they are as dramatic as a gun exhibit at a murder trial. (Ceefax)
9.00 Film: Cocaine — One Man's Poison (1988). A harrowing tale of drug-addiction starring Dennis Weaver as a businessman who, after a series of misfortunes at work, turns to cocaine, thinking it will solve all his problems. *Directed by Paul Wendkos*
10.30 Newsnight presented by Jeremy Paxman
11.15 The Late Show. Includes an interview with Timothy Mo and a report on the marketing of politicians in the media 11.55 Weather
12.00 Open University: Arts Foundation Course. Ends at 2.30am

ITV

6.00 TV-am
9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word association game with Lennie Bennett 9.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 The Time . . . The Place . . . Topical discussion hosted by John Stapleton
10.40 This Morning. Magazine series presented by husband-and-wife team Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan. They are joined by *supercook Susan Brookes, wine expert Charles Metcalfe and* gardener Monty Don. Includes at 10.55 News headlines and at 11.55 Regional News followed by national weather
12.10 Rosie and Jim. For the very young
12.30 News and weather 1.10 Thames News and weather
1.20 Home and Away 1.50 A Country Practice
2.20 Thames Help. In National Crime Prevention Week, Jackie Spreckley examines ways in which the public can become involved in the fight against crime 2.50 Graham Kerr. The gourmet chef prepares catfish fillets
3.15 ITN News headlines 3.20 Thames News headlines 3.25 Families. Soap set in the north of England and Australia
3.55 Wowser 4.10 Cartoon 4.20 Krankies Television. The comic Scottish duo attempt to produce a quiz show with chaotic results 4.45 Count Duckula. Cartoon about a vampire duck (r)
5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the general knowledge quiz for teenagers
5.40 News. (Oracle) Weather
5.55 Thames Help. Jackie Spreckley with the first in a series about National Crime Prevention Week
6.00 Home and Away (r)
6.30 Thames News
7.00 The Cook Report. More hard-hitting investigations with Roger Cook exposing villainy, corruption and issues of public concern



At loggerheads: Anne Kirkbride and Dawn Acton (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Tracy plans to attend a pop concert, but Deirdre has other ideas. Are the battling Barneses heading for a divorce? (Oracle)
8.00 The Upper Hand. Lukewarm sitcom starring Diana Weston and Joe McGann as an businesswoman and her burly housekeeper. *Caroline blames Charlie when he pushes the unathletic Tom too* hard in a gymnastics competition. (Oracle)
8.30 World In Action. Are doctors prescribing unhealthy amounts of antibiotics? *World in Action explores* the issues surrounding the use of drugs and asks whether over-prescribing could breed a new "superbug", increasingly resistant to existing medicines
9.00 Film: Police Academy (1984). The original anarchic comedy starring Steve Guttenberg that has spawned five sequels to date. When the new mayoress of an American city abolishes the restrictions for entering the police force, a wave of wholly unsuitable recruits enters the Police Academy with predictably *slapstick results. Puerile and crude in parts, but generally a good-*natured romp that remains streets ahead of any of its successors. Also starring George Gaynes, Kim Cattrall, GW Bailey, Bubba Smith and Georgina Spelvin. Directed by Hugh Wilson. (Oracle) Continues after the News
10.00 News at Ten. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather
10.40 Film: Police Academy continued
11.30 Breadline Britain — 1990s. Second in the series describing how the poor manage on state benefits and examining the results of government changes to the benefits system
12.00 The New Avengers. Offbeat special agent series starring Patrick McNee, *Joanna Lumley and Gareth Hunt*
1.00 Sportsworld Extra. Highlights from the latest round of the European Golf Tour at the La Moye course in Jersey. Plus a look back to the weekend's football action at home and on the Continent
2.00 Film: Up In Arms (1944). Musical comedy starring Danny Kaye (his screen debut) as a hypochondriac who takes a job in a hospital in order to receive constant medical attention, but is subsequently drafted by the Army and captured by the Japanese. Directed by Elliott Nugent
4.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: When This Man Dies. Adrian Zmed *stars as a compulsive gambler who begins to receive unsolicited* money in the mail, somehow linked to a mysterious death (r)
4.30 Bedrock. Featuring rock band Ten Years After
5.30 ITN Morning News. Ends at 6.00am

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily
9.25 The Flying Doctors. Repeated three-part drama about Australia's *Royal Flying Doctor Service*
11.15 Hamster Affair. Animated children's film from Czechoslovakia
11.25 Attempt on the Pole. In 1989, an international team attempted to cross the Antarctic. As a training exercise, they made the first crossing of Greenland from South to North — a 1,300 mile trek (r)
12.00 Garden Club (r) (Teletext)
12.30 Business Daily presented by Susannah Simons
1.00 Sesame Street. Learning-made-fun for pre-school children
2.00 Banned: Right to Reply Special (r) (Teletext)
2.30 Film: Tony Draws a Horse (1950, b/w). Mildly entertaining British comedy about a young boy (Anthony Lang) who draws an anatomically correct picture of a horse on the office door of his father, a Harley Street surgeon. His parents (Cecil Parker and Anne Crawford) are unable to agree on how, or whether, the boy should be disciplined and things get out of control, leading to marital strife. Directed by John Paddy Carstairs
4.10 Film: Dizzy Pilots (1943, b/w). A wartime comedy short starring the Three Stooges as inventors of a revolutionary new aircraft
4.30 Fifteen-to-One. Quick-fire quiz show
5.00 The Late Late Show. Topical chat show from Dublin
6.00 The Cosby Show: Mother, May I? American comedy series (r)
8.30 Tonight with Jonathan Ross. The guests are Chris Tarrant and Andrew Logan, the men behind the Alternative Miss World competition
7.00 Channel 4 News. (Teletext)
7.50 The A-Z of Censorship.
8.00 Brookside. (Teletext)
8.30 My Two Dads: That's No Lady, That's My Mother. Silly American sitcom about two men who inherit a daughter
9.00 Banned: The Truth About Lies — Big Lies of the 20th Century. This second in the series focusing on this century's most significant acts of censorship covers a great deal of ground: *Stalin's Lies recalls the Russian leader's deliberate starvation of* Ukrainian peasants as well as the infamous "show trials" of the Thirties. *Race Lies* uses film of the Americans' forced sterilisation of minorities they viewed as "genetically inferior", alongside Nazi propaganda designed to promote anti-semitism, and *Cold War Lies* tells of the Katyn massacre, which until recently the Soviet *Union claimed was the responsibility of the Nazis. Finally China's Lies* shows how Mao Tse-tung took total control of state information agencies. (Teletext)
10.00 Survival Factor: Flying With the Birds. A documentary about Israel's crowded skies in which the yearly migration of millions of birds is made hazardous by the jet planes that also inhabit this airspace (r). (Teletext)
10.30 Banned: Damned in the USA. Channel 4's *Banned* series continues with this film about the objections Christian fundamentalist groups have raised over certain forms of artistic expression in the United States. The photographs of Robert Mapplethorpe, Madonna's Pepsi Cola advertisement and the lyrics of Miami rap group Two Live Crew are just some of the items that have come under fire



Goodies: physically abnormal circus entertainers (11.50pm)

11.50 Film: Freaks (1932, b/w).
● CHOICE: No programme screened so far in Channel 4's *Banned* season was banned for as long as Tod Browning's notorious movie about a circus of horrors (forget about the 1960 film with this title; it was too silly for words). *Freaks* was kept off cinema screens in Britain for 30 years. The censors thought it was unacceptably insulting to the handicapped. They totally misunderstood it. These freakish circus entertainers — the armless, the legless, the dwarfs, the pin-heads and the bearded ladies — had nothing to do with the evil hunchbacks who were the stereotypes of lesser horror films. Browning shows the physically abnormal to be the goodies, and the so-called normal to be the baddies, and when the freaks make them pay the penalty for their evil ways — the film's climax is every bit as shocking as you have heard it is — it is a classic example of "eye for an eye" retribution.
1.00am Film: Noose (1945, b/w). *A British gangster thriller starring* Carole Landis (in her last film) as a reporter trying to bring black marketeer Joseph Calleia to book. Directed by Edmond T. Greville. Ends at 2.45

TV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

Carlo 5.10-5.40 Ark on the Move. 5.55-7.00 Anglia News 12.00-1.00 Births, Marriages and Deaths 2.00 The Law and Harry McGraw 2.55 Chart Show 3.55 Pop Profile 4.05 60 Minutes 5.00-5.30 Pick of the Week

BORDER

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Lookaround Monday 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 12.00 Film: Don't Look Behind You 1.45 America's Top Ten 2.20 Pick of the Week 2.45 SFX — Very Special Effects 3.45 Kreskin's Quest 4.35-5.30 Hit Man and Her

CENTRAL

As London except: 2.20pm-3.15 Monte Carlo 5.10-5.40 Ark on the Move 6.25-7.00 News 11.55 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.55 Santa Barbara 1.50 Wrestling 2.50 Entertainment *UK 3.50* Bryan Ferry *4.05-5.30* Jobs

GRANADA

As London except: 1.50pm Graham Kerr 2.20-3.15 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.40 The Munsters Today 6.30-7.00 Granada Tonight 12.00 Film: Don't Look Behind You 1.45 Top Ten 2.20 Pick of the Week 2.45 SFX — Very Special Effects 3.45 Kreskin's Quest 4.35-5.30 The Hit Man and Her

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.50pm The Sullivans 2.20-3.15 A Country Practice 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 HTV News 6.35-7.00 What's On 12.00-1.00 Women in Rock 2.00 Pick of the Week 2.30 How Was It For You? 3.00 Film: Blondie Knows Best" 4.10 50 Years On 4.30 Bedrock 5.25-5.30 Jobfinder

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm Wales at Six 6.30-7.00 Primetime

SCOTTISH

As London except: 1.50pm Blockbusters 2.20-3.15 Hard Time on Planet Earth 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Scotland Today 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 12.00 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.55 Film: Beyond the Universe 2.20 The Twilight Zone 2.50 America's Top Ten 3.20 Santa Barbara 4.20 Pop Profile 4.50-5.30 Jobfinder

TSW

As London except: 1.50pm The Young Doctors 2.15 Cover Story: David Copperfield 2.45-3.15 Yan Can Cook 3.25-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-5.40 Families 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Consumer File 12.00 Film: Don't Look Behind You 1.45 America's Top Ten 2.20 Pick of the Week 2.45 SFX — Very Special Effects 3.45 Kreskin's Quest 4.35-5.30 The Hit Man and Her

TVS

As London except: 2.20pm Coast to Coast People 2.45-3.15 Simply the Best 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30-7.00 It's a Dog's Life 12.00 Alfred Hitchcock 12.25 Dirty Dancing 12.50 Sportsworld 1.50 Boy George 2.00 The Concert 3.00 Film: Whisperers 5.00-5.30 Countryside Close

TYNE TEES

As London except: 2.50pm-3.15 *Simply the Best* 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Northern Life 6.30-7.00 World of Golf 12.00 Film: Don't Look Behind You 1.45 America's Top Ten 2.20 Pick of the Week 2.45 SFX — Very Special Effects 3.45 Kreskin's Quest 4.35-5.30 The Hit Man and Her

ULSTER

As London except: 2.45pm-3.15 Kitchen Garden 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Ask Anne 12.00 Film: Don't Look Behind You 1.45 America's Top Ten 2.20 Pick of the Week 2.45 SFX — Very Special Effects 3.45 Kreskin's Quest 4.35-5.30 The Hit Man and Her

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 2.00pm-3.15 Film: Blackout" 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 It's a Vet's Life 12.00 Prisoner: *Cell Block H 12.55* Film: Night People 2.40 Trans World Sport 3.35 Music Box *4.35-5.30* Jobfinder

S4C

Starts: 6.00am C4 Daily 9.25 Sesame Street 10.25 Film: The Cowboy and the Lady" 12.00 Snooker 12.10 Pobol Y Cwm 12.30 Newyddion 12.40 Slot Melltith 1.00 Fifteen to One 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 Great British Isles 2.30 Film: Craig's Wife" 3.55 Joshua Coats 4.00 Different World 4.30 Slot 23 5.15 Brookside 5.45 Heno 6.00 Newyddion 6.10 Heno 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm *7.00 Dinas 7.30 Sgorio 8.00 Newyddion 8.55 Y Byd Ar Bedwar* 9.30 Roseanne 10.00 thirtysomething 10.55 Secrets of the Mangrove Swamp 11.45 Film: Freaks" 12.55 Film: Noose" 2.45 Diwedd

RTE 1

Starts: 1.00pm News 1.40 Delia Smith's Cookery Course 2.05 The Love Boat 3.00 Live at Three 4.00 News followed by Highdays and Holidays 4.30 Carson's Law 5.20 Short Look at the World 5.30 A Country Practice 6.00 The Angelus 6.01 News 7.00 Up and Running 7.30 The Pure Drop 7.55 Out of Limits 8.05 The Young Riders 9.00 News 9.30 Twin Peaks 10.20 Questions and Answers 11.25 News 11.35 Close

NETWORK 2

Starts: 2.30pm Bosco 3.00 The Den 6.25 Home and Away 6.55 Nuacht 7.00 Coach 7.30 Coronation Street 8.00 News followed by Italian Soccer 9.00 Golden Girls 9.30-11.10 News followed by Film: Seduced

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only): Scribble, Scribble, Scribble, Mr Gibbon
6.55 Weather; News Headlines
7.00 Morning Concert: Sullivan (Overture, Di Ballo: Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra under Charles Groves); Handel (Art Thou Troubled?, Rodelinda: London Symphony Orchestra under Malcolm Sargent, with Kathleen Ferrier, alto); Holst (Mercury; Jupiter, The Planets: London Philharmonic Orchestra under Georg Solti)
7.30 News
7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Dohnányi (Konzertstücke in D: LSO under Charles Mackerras, with Raphael Wallfisch, cello); Schubert (Symphony No 2 in B flat: Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra under Herbert von Karajan)
8.30 News
8.35 Composers of the Week: Alessandro and Domenico *Scarlatti. D. Scarlatti (Sinfonia* No 13 in B flat); A. Scarlatti (Variations on La Folia); D. Scarlatti (Cantata, Che vidi, oh! ciel che vidi!; Sonata in D minor, Kk 89); A. Scarlatti (Mio tesoro, *per te moro; Concerto* in D minor)
9.35 Morning Sequence: Mendelssohn (Overture for wind instruments, Op 10: LSO under Abbado); Bach (French *Suite No 2 in C minor*: Vanessa Latarche, piano); Arnold (Duo for flute and viola, Op 10: Judith Pearce, Roger Chase); Mozart (Serenade in C minor, K 388: Camerata Wind Soloists); *Schumann (Etudes* en forme de variations, Op 13: Vanessa Latarche, piano); Arnold (Octet Divertimento, Op 137 — first broadcast: Camerata Wind Soloists)
11.20 Bournemouth *SO under* Andrew Litton, with Ulf Hoelscher, violin, performs Bernstein (Fancy Free, Ballet Suite); Barber (Violin Concerto, Op 14); Tchaikovsky (*Symphony No 4 in F minor*, Op 36) (r)
1.00pm News
1.05 BBC Lunchtime Concert: Live from St John's, Smith Square, London. Joseph Kalichstein, piano, *Jaime Laredo, violin*, Sharon Robinson, cello, perform Rebecca Clarke (Trio, 1920); Brahms (Trio in C, Op 87)
2.05 Third Opinion (r)
2.50 An Alternative Beethoven Nine (new series): Lyndon Jenkins selects nine post-war recordings of Beethoven symphonies which he considers to have stood the test of time. A 1947 recording by the New York PO under Bruno Walter of Symphony No 1, preceded by excerpts from Fidelio
3.50 Violin and Piano: Christian Altenburger and Bruno Canino perform Strauss (Sonata in E flat, Op 18); Schoenberg (Phantasy, Op 47); Bartók (*Sonata No 2*)
4.50 German Romantic Organ Music: Graham Barber plays the second of four programmes. Töpfer (Bellet du deine Wege); Rheinberger (Sonata in F minor, Op 127 No 1)
5.30 Mainly for Pleasure
7.00 News
7.05 Third Ear: Guy Woolfenden, head of music at the RSC, talks to Natalie Wheen about his work
7.30 Dresden Staatskapelle: Live from the Festival Hall, London, Bernard Haitink conducts Mozart (Symphony No 35, *Haffner). 7.55 A Stroll in* Vienna. Carl Auböck visits the monastery of St Florian in Upper Austria, where Anton Bruckner worked as a choirmaster, and talks to *Judith Bumpus about its* Baroque architecture. 8.15 Bruckner (Symphony No 7)
9.40 Spectrum: Colin Tudge in conversation with the second of six scientists. Andrew Goudie, professor of geography at Oxford University, talks about his studies of deserts and why they fascinate him
10.05 Manley Hopkins Settings: BBC Singers under *Simon Joly sing* Milner (The Leaden Echo and the Golden Echo); Britten (God's Grandeur; O Deus, ego amo te; Rosa mystica; Heaven-Haven, Ad majorem Dei gloriam)
10.30 Mixing It, with Mark Russell and Robert Sandall
11.30 News
11.35-12.35am Composers of the Week: Sibelius (Spring Song, Op 16; En Saga, Op 9; Nocturne; Ballade, King Christian II, Op 27; Romance for Strings in C, Op 42; Valse triste, Op 44 No 1; Finlandia, Op 26) (r)

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM
5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather
8.35 This Week on 4
8.43 Feasting on the Archives: Jam Tomorrow
● CHOICE: Anyone who remembers food rationing will react with wry amusement to this collection of recordings presented by Aisling Foster, the first of three in a new series. Who was it, she asks, who said the British liked nothing better than a dish of cold mutton eaten in a draught? Well, one woman recalls doughnuts for a half penny, "lovely and greasy, covered in sugar, a gorgeous lump of jam inside." Somerset Maugham talks with relish of vast banquets and it's nice to hear Freddy Grisewood's voice again. The sound of bacon frying, simply reflects the age of the recordings 8.57 Weather
9.00 News 9.05 Start the Week (s)
10.00 News; Money Box (r)
10.30 Morning Story: Three Hours Between Planes, *by F. Scott* Fitzgerald
10.45 Daily Service
11.00 News; Coastline: Cliff Michelmore completes his three-part coastal journey from Portland Bill along Chesil Beach to Abbotsbury, Bridport and Lyme Regis (s) (r)
11.40 Poetry Please! (s)
12.00 News; You and Yours
12.25pm Brain of Britain 1991 (new series): First Round — The South. Robert Robinson chairs a nationwide general knowledge contest (s) 12.55 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping
2.00 News; Woman's Hour: Includes an interview with the actress Stefanie Powers
3.00 News; The Envy of a Stranger. A thriller by Caroline Graham about a man, determined to break into showbusiness, who becomes obsessed with Roz, a successful chat show presenter (Isla Blair) (s) (r)
4.30 Kaleidoscope: Richard Cork visits an exhibition of paintings by Georges Seurat at the Musée D'Orssay in Paris (s)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report
6.30 The News Quiz (s) (r)
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 The Food Programme, with Derek Cooper (r)
7.45 The Monday Play: Stone Age, by Carolyn Sally Jones. Val (Jane Wittenshaw) recalls the heady days of her life at university in the Sixties when she visits her student daughter (Henrietta Whitsun Jones) (s)
9.00 Fine Arts Brass (s)
9.15 Kaleidoscope (s) (r)
9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s) 9.59 Weather
10.00 The World Tonight (s)
10.45 A Book at Bedtime: Tuppence for the Rainbow. Leslie Sands reads the sixth of an eight-part adaptation of his autobiography
11.00 Flying the Flag: Whose Rubbish is it Anyway? The first of a six-part observation of East-West diplomacy, written by Alex Shearer (s) (r)
11.30 Today in Parliament
12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping

SCOTLAND

MW
News on the hour until 7.00pm.
5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 Good Morning Scotland 9.03 Head On 10.03 Speaking Out 11.03 MacGregor's Gathering 12.02pm Queen Street Garden 12.45 Made to Measure 1.30 In the Country 2.02 Art Sutter 4.30 Newsdrive 6.15 Iain Anderson
7.02 In the Country (broadcast at 1.30pm) 7.30 Shepherd's Fancy 8.30 Travelling Folk; 9.25 Music for the Pipes 9.55 Prayer Desk 9.59 Weather 10.00 News 10.10 The Scottish Chart Show 11.30 Beat Patrol (FM only from 12.00-12.30am) 12.00 As World Service

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/ 247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. World Service: MW 648kHz/463m. Jazz FM 102.2. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9; Melody FM 104.8.

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.35 Mrs Pepperpot 8.45 Panel Pot Pourri 10.00 Here's Lucy 10.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11.30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century *1.00 True Confessions 1.30* Another World 2.20 Santa Barbara 2.45 Wife of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Punky Brewster 5.30 McHale's Navy 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7.00 Love at First Sight 7.30 All 8.00 Hollywood Wives: Second of a three-part mini series 10.00 Love at First Sight 10.30 Anything for Money 11.00 Hill Street Blues 12.00 The Outer Limits 1.00am Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
News on the hour.
5.00am Sunrise 9.30 Health Circuit 10.30 The Reporters 11.00 International Business Report 11.30 Dayline 12.30pm NBC Today 1.30 NBC Today 2.30 Parliament Live 3.30 Parliament Live 4.30 The Reporters 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newsline 8.30 The Reporters 10.30 Newsline 11.30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC News 2.30 CBS News 3.30 NBC News 4.30 Beyond 2000

SKY MOVIES+

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am Showcase
10.00 Beaches (1988): Bette Midler and Barbara Hershey enjoy a 30-year friendship 12.00 Who Are The Debolts and Where *Did They Get 19 Kids? (1975): An Oscar-*winning documentary about the adoptive and natural children of Dorothy and Bob 2.00pm The Lady Vanishes (1979): Comedy-mystery remake of the Hitchcock classic set on a train bound for Britain during the second world war *4.00 Chu Chu and the Philly Flash: Carol* Burnett and Alan Arkin star in an offbeat comedy about two unsavoury characters who find a briefcase full of stolen government papers and decide to ransom their find 6.00 Where Pigeons Go to Die (1990): A middle-aged man reflects on the time he spent with his grandfather as a young boy 8.00 Head Office (1986): Judge Reinhold stars in this comedy about a graduate who lands a top job in his father's corporation 10.00 Media Princess (1986): A Mafia patriarch has problems controlling his tenant daughter. Starring Susan Lucci 11.40 Killer Party (1986): A murdered student's spirit possesses a girl's body and *goes on a vengeful killing spree* 1.15am The Initiation (1983): A knife-wielding maniac gatecrashes an initiation party at a college sorority house 2.50 Revenge of the Nerds (1984): College wimps decide to stand up to their aggressors. Starring Robert Carradine 4.20 Intimate Strangers (1986): Terl Garr returns home ten years after the Vietnam war, to find that her husband Stacy Keach is with another woman. Ends at 5.55am

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite. From 6pm, via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.15am Twins (1988): Starring Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito
8.15 French Without Tears (1940, b/w): Starring Ray Milland and Ellen Drew
10.15 The King of Jazz (1930): Definitive jazz movie featuring George Gershwin's "Rhapsody in Blue"
12.15pm Easy Come, Easy Go (1947, b/w): An Irish gambler tries to prevent his daughter from getting married
2.15 The Promise (1979): A girl returns from the dead with a new face, much to the surprise of her boyfriend
4.15 The Adventures of the Wilderness Family (1975): A suburban family decamps to the American wilderness
6.15 Christine Cromwell — Only the Good: Another whodunit for Jaclyn Smith
8.15 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989): The daredevil archaeologist (Harrison Ford) sets out to rescue his father (Sean Connery), captured by the Nazis while hunting for the Holy Grail
10.25 Coming to America (1988): An African prince (Eddie Murphy) escapes to America to find the girl of his dreams
12.25am The Dead Can't Lie (1988): Tommy Lee Jones hires a private eye to stop his late wife from haunting him
2.05 Cop's Honour (1985): Former cop Alain Delon comes out of retirement to hunt down his teenage daughter's murderer
3.40 Stars and Stars (1988): Daniel Day Lewis stars as a British art dealer in search of a long-lost Renoir. Ends at 5.15am

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
11.30am US Masters Golf 3.00pm British Rugby League 5.00 A Day at The Beach 6.00 Tuff Trex 7.00 NWA Wrestling 8.00 Football Special: Italian Football; FA Cup Semi-Final Review 11.00 Superbouts 12.00 Football Special

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
5.00am Newswatch 6.00 DJ Kat Show 7.30 Eurobics 8.00 Equestrianism 10.00 Judo World Masters 10.30 Eurobics 11.00 European Cup Snooker 1.00pm Skiing 2.00 Cross-Country World Championships 3.00 Paris-Roubaix Cycling 4.00 Game of Billions *5.00 World Short Track Speedskating 6.00* Big Wheels 6.30 Eurosport News 7.00 NHL Ice Hockey 8.00 Boxing 9.00 Football: History of Soccer 10.00 Dog Racing 10.30 Darts World Championships 11.00 European Open Snooker 1.00am Australian Rules Football 2.00 Eurosport News

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Powersports International 8.00 NBA Basketball 10.00 Stop-Mud and Monsters 11.00 US Pro Sid Tour Giant Slalom 11.45 Ten Pin Bowling 1.00pm ATP US Tennis 3.00 NHL Ice Hockey 5.00 Stop-USWA Wrestling 6.00 Update; Go 7.00 Ice Racing 7.30 Spanish Football Highlights 8.00 Fight Night at the Forum USA Boxing 9.30 Tenpin Bowling 10.00 PGA Golf 11.00 Mobil 1 Rally *Challenge 11.30 Show Jumping*

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am The Great American Gameshows 11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout *11.50* Slim Cooking 12.15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1.05 What's Cooking 1.10 Search for Tomorrow 1.35 The Edge of Night 2.00 Divorce Court 2.25 It's Your Lifestyle 2.35 The David Niven Show 3.05 Rafferty's Rules 3.55 Tea Break 4.05 Phyllis 4.35 The Great American Gameshows 6.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 JSTV 10.00 The Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW. 5.00am Gary King 6.30 Simon Mayo 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Steve Wright in the Afternoon 5.30 News '91 6.00 Jakki Brambles 7.30 Mark Goodier's Evening Session 9.00 Out on Blue Six 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am Bob Harris

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 4.00am Alex Lester: The Early *Show 5.00 Ken Bruce 7.30 Derek Jameson* 9.30 Judith Chalmers 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm Cliff Morgan 2.00 Sarah Kennedy 3.30 Claire Rayner 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 The Great Musicals: Guys and Dolls 7.30 Alan Dell: A salute to Al Bowlly, and at 8.00 Big Band Era 8.30 Big Band Special 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton with the Best of Jazz 10.00 Chris Stuart 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Bill Rennells with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 3

6.00am World Service: News and 24 Hours 8.30 Morning Edition, incl 8.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.30 News

Van Gogh masterpieces abandoned by thieves

From MARK FULLER IN AMSTERDAM

TWENTY paintings were recovered by Dutch police yesterday only 35 minutes after they were stolen from the Van Gogh museum near the centre of Amsterdam. The paintings by the impressionist master were said to be worth several hundred million dollars (at least £100 million) and included the classic *The Potato Eaters*. They were discovered in the thieves' getaway car after it was abandoned near a railway station about two miles from the museum.

The museum's director, Ronald de Leeuw, said three of the paintings had been seriously but not irreparably damaged. Several others had been scratched. Although the thieves had carefully taken the paintings out of their glass-fronted frames, they were scratched when they were stacked on top of each other in two suit carriers and a sports bag. Among the three badly damaged works was *Wheatfield with Crows* one of Van Gogh's most important works.

The district police chief, Foeke Wagenaar, who is investigating the raid, believed to be the biggest art theft in The Netherlands apart from the plundering by the nazis during the second world war, described the thieves as both "very professional and very amateurish".

He said two guards had heard a noise in the museum at 3am and were shortly afterwards confronted by a man with a handgun. The man forced them into the control centre of the museum's high-tech security system where the alarm was switched off. A main door of the museum was then opened by an accomplice, also armed with a pistol. Both men wore balaclavas and gloves and were described by one of the guards as speaking English with American accents.

One guard was locked in a room and the other held at gunpoint while one of the thieves took at least 45 minutes to select the paintings. All the art works were taken from the third floor in the museum, home of the world's largest collection of the Dutch painters works. After locking up the second security official the thieves made their getaway in the car of one of the guards.

Police were alerted at 5.12am by one of the guards who had managed to break through the ceiling of the room where he was locked in and climb into the hall above.

A police spokesman said the thieves had apparently taken the guard's car because their own was too small to hold their loot. He added that they could have heard its registration number being broadcast on police radio frequencies and then panicked, dumping the vehicle. The car was discovered with its doors open by a crane driver on his way home from work.

In terms of Dutch cultural policy, the paintings were not insured. Mr de Leeuw said the thieves had stolen too many lesser known works for it to have been a professional ransom operation. He could not, however, explain how amateurs had penetrated the museum's security system, which was only recently installed after a spate of art thefts in The Netherlands. The museum was believed to be the most secure in Europe.

Mr de Leeuw said a link in the system could have failed, and police were not ruling out an insider tip-off.



Damaged masterpiece: one of Van Gogh's most important paintings, *Wheatfield with Crows*, was seriously damaged during the theft

The 20 stolen paintings

These are the Van Gogh paintings which were stolen from the museum in Amsterdam:

Church at Nuenen (1884)
The Potato Eaters (1885)
Basket with Apples (1885)
Still Life with Bible (1885) (damaged)
A Pair of Shoes (1887)
Oiran (1887)
Still Life with Lemons, Pears and Grapes (1887) (damaged)
Self-portrait as Painter (1888)
Leather Clogs (1888)
The Langlois Bridge (1888)
Pink Peach Trees (1888)
Vincent's Bedroom in Arles (1888)
The Sower (1888)
Still Life with Sunflowers (1889)
Wheatfield with Reaper (1889)
Branches with Almond Blossom (1890)
Still Life with Irises (1890)
Field with Trees (1890)
Wheatfield with Crows (1890) (damaged)
Roots and Tree Trunks (1890)

Dutch master is top seller on the legitimate and underworld markets

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND, ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

YESTERDAY'S abortive theft of ten paintings from the Van Gogh museum in Amsterdam confirms that the world's most expensive artist in the bona fide art market is also the hottest property in the underworld.

Van Gogh's auction records of £24 million in 1986 for his painting *Sunflowers*, and £36 million for *Irises* in 1987 have been succeeded by four thefts of his works from Dutch museums in four years. Because they are so renowned, the paintings have no prospect of sale on the open market, leading to speculation that a sophisticated black market is in operation.

In May 1988 Van Gogh's *Carnations* was stolen from the Museum of Modern Art in Amsterdam, adjacent to the Van Gogh museum. Two months later thieves pulled off a spectacular coup when they seized three Van Goghs from the Kroller-Mueller museum in the Dutch village of Otterlo. These latter works were recovered when the thieves attempted to collect a ransom. Last June three small Van Gogh oil paintings disappeared from another museum in North Brabant province. They have never been recovered.

According to American law-enforcement officials speaking to the American magazine *Artnews*, big narcotics dealers are now acquiring art for their personal collections and as a way of laundering money. The drugs barons are believed to enjoy a combination of aesthetic pleasure in the works with the illicit thrill of forbidden ownership. *Artnews* focused on an informer nicknamed "The Man" who,



according to American police, has provided information on both multimillion-dollar drugs deals and art thefts, including New York's biggest theft from the Colnaghi art gallery in 1988, from which most of the paintings have now been recovered.

The fact that, in their haste, yesterday's thieves damaged three of the works, *Still Life with Bible*, *Still Life with Lemons* and, most importantly, *Wheatfield with Crows*, would take many millions of pounds off the value of such works if they ever reached the open market. The same would almost certainly be true in the underworld.

The Netherlands is particularly subject to art theft followed by ransom demands because of the willingness of the authorities to pay informers whether or not the information they receive results in conviction of the offenders. In Britain informers are not paid until cases are concluded and they are cleared of any involvement.

Nurse's care gives Kurdish boys hope

Continued from page 1

am coming to feed them. Even during the night I am keeping an eye on them because of the cold. They can't speak. I hope they live because I have decided to take them to my home and make them my children if the parents don't come back."

Peregrine said the boys had probably been out in the open for seven days. She said she had decided to call the elder one, who looked the weakest, Awarah, which means refugee, and the younger one Rebwar, meaning caravan.

Although she is not married she was, she said, sure that she and her mother would be able to look after the boys as long as they made a reasonable recovery. "I am ready to help them for the sake of God and humanity," she said.

Her story helps to illustrate the generosity of the Iranian Kurds along the Iraqi border who suddenly have been faced with hundreds of thousands of people trying to survive without food or shelter. Their response is mirrored, too, by the efforts of the Iranian government which, in contrast to Turkey, has opened its borders, cleared away rigorous bureaucratic procedures and allowed refugees to search for food and shelter.

Media tests mettle of party leaders

Continued from page 1

as prime minister, the measure of a politician's success rests on how well they could dominate interviews, and of course interviewers.

"His problem is that he cannot turn questions around, setting his own agenda and getting off the defensive," said Maya Even, the early morning TV-am presenter and former political correspondent, who wrote her thesis at Oxford on the effect of television on election campaign tactics.

"It is ironic that as a politician gets more experience, they start answering questions posed by themselves, not by the interviewer. Callaghan would say, 'a more interesting question would be ...' It gets to the point where politicians like Mrs Thatcher became un-interviewable. Major was attempting to answer the questions," Ms Even said.

Cecil Parkinson, the former Tory Party chairman who helped Mrs Thatcher with her image, said: "It's early days yet for Major. It was not on day one that Mrs Thatcher was the dominating person she later became. Walden gave him a tough interview, but it didn't shake him."

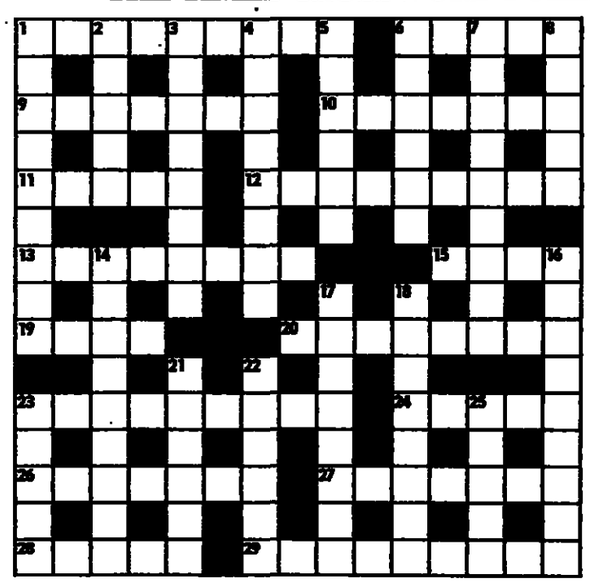
Ms Even said Mr Kinnock is more effective at setting out his own agenda, answering the questions he wishes to answer in a way he wishes to. "He is much better in a controlled, taped interview; he tends to be thrown by the unexpected. But comparing Mr Major's performance on live television to Mr Kinnock's in a taped radio interview is like comparing apples and oranges," she said.

Where Mrs Thatcher would never have allowed herself to even *think* of admitting during a live television interview that one of her policies might fail, Mr Major told Mr Walden that his policy on the Kurdish refugees might ultimately fail. "I think it is right to set out those objectives, they may fail, Brian, they may fail ... I may end up with egg all over my face because they fail, but I'll tell you this, I would rather end up with egg all over my face having tried and failed, than not having tried to put forward solutions to this problem," Mr Major said.

Ms Even described Mr Major's honesty as "disarming", and something the general public appreciates. "But there is a point when it stops impressing people and starts to alarm them," she added.

Peter Mandelson, the former Labour director of communications and Labour parliamentary candidate in Hartlepool, described Mr Major's performance as "[illegible] and unconvincing". He said: "In November I believed voters would find his naturalness disarming, his apparent honesty refreshing. But *I think that judgment has now* changed: honesty is read as uncertainty and naturalness as not up to the job."

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,580



ACROSS

1 Splits in items of dress (9).
6 Tube accepts a coin (5).
9 He presses his claim as a one-time player (7).
10 The language of love (7).
11 College authority or benefactor (5).
12 Approximate price semi might bring (9).
13 "Round about the cauldron go; in the poison'd _____ throw." *(Macbeth)* (8).
15 Perch for a singer (4).
19 Fifty-first record (4).
20 The seaman managed to get back with gold, so he spun the tale (8).
23 Rendered intoxicated (9).
24 Depicted with a strained look (5).
26 Ingenious point put by trainee — exemplary worker (7).
27 The result of a strike? (7).
28 Attack currency returns (3,2).
29 Turned and made off when not needed (9).

DOWN

1 Celerity shown by spring flower (9).
2 Left in great discomfort, that's clear (5).
3 An accepted member of society or a rat in disposition? (8).
4 Wrong article written about sickly Mexican food (8).
6 The mother bird is getting wet (6).
7 Study fit and frisky friend (9).
8 The half-time topic (5).
14 An examination people enter at will (9).
16 Most extraordinary class held by holy twins (9).
17 Amusing come-uppance put in with letter (8).
18 Town offering extended charging facilities (8).
21 Win in a regatta in harbour (6).
22 Packer in a hole? (6).
23 Supports a man (5).
25 Perfume named after a Continental city (5).

PARKER DUOFOLD

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 18,579 will appear next Saturday. The 5 winners will receive a Duofold fountain pen supplied by Parker

Concise crossword, page 17

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

MATHEMATICS

TRAPEZIUM
a. An elliptical pendulum
b. A kind of numerical integration
c. An irregular quadrilateral

FIBONACCI
a. An Italian algebraicist
b. A biquadratic equation
c. A graph of saddle points

GOLDBACH'S CONJECTURE
a. Infinity plus 1
b. A double helix
c. A number is sum of two primes

TRAVELLING SALESMAN PROBLEM
a. How to take the samples
b. Route between towns
c. Absurd coordinates

Answers on page 18, column 1

For the latest AA traffic and road-works information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE

C. London (within N & S Circs.)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T-M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

England, Wales, Northern Ireland and southern Scotland should be dry, after a misty start in places. There will be a lot of cloud at times, especially in the East. It will feel warm in sunnier spots in the West, but cold in the East with a fresh northeasterly wind. Northern and eastern Scotland will be cloudy, possibly with light rain in places. Outlook: cloudy at times with some showers.

MIDDAY: b=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; t=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Alaccio	19	66	s	Madrid	12	54	c
Alicnti	22	72	s	Majorca	18	64	f
Alex'dria	28	82	f	Malaga	17	63	f
Algiers	22	72	f	Malta	19	66	s
Amst'dm	15	59	s	Melb'rne	17	63	f
Athens	18	64	f	Mexico C*	25	78	s
Bahrain	25	77	s	Miami*	27	81	c
Barbados*	29	84	r	Milan	18	61	s
Barcelna	15	59	c	Moscow	17	63	f
Belgrade	19	66	s	Munich	15	59	f
Berlin	18	64	s	Nairobi	25	77	f
Bermuda*	18	64	f	Naples	18	64	s
Biarritz	15	59	f	N Delhi	31	88	s
Borde'x	17	63	s	N York*	9	48	r
Brussels	16	61	s	Nice	17	63	s
Budapst	18	64	c	Oslo	10	50	s
B Aires*	21	70	c	Paris	16	61	s
Cairo	36	97	f	Peking	28	82	s
Cape Tn	22	72	f	Perth	25	77	s
C'blanca	15	59	c	Prague	18	61	s
Chicago*	7	45	c	Reykjavik	4	39	c
Ch'church	19	66	s	Rhodes	23	68	s
Cologne	20	68	f	Rio de J	27	81	s
Cyprus	17	63	s	Riyadh	25	77	s
Corfu	17	63	s	Rome	19	66	s
Dublin	9	48	r	Salzburg	14	57	s
Dubrovnik	16	59	f	S F'risco*	14	57	s
Faro	13	55	c	Santiago*	21	70	f
Florence	21	70	s	S Paulo*	22	72	c
Frankfurt	19	66	f	Seoul	15	59	s
Funchal	16	61	f	Sing'por	33	91	f
Geneva	16	61	f	St'kholm	9	48	f
Gibraltar	17	63	f	Strasb'rg	19	66	c
Helsinki	6	41	c	Sydney	24	75	c
Hong K	28	73	c	Tangier	17	63	f
Innsbruck	17	63	f	Tel Aviv	28	73	f
Istanbul	9	48	f	Tenerife	18	64	c
Jeddah	33	91	s	Tokyo	19	66	c
Jo'burg*	21	70	f	Tunis	18	64	c
L Palmas	18	64	c	Valencia	14	57	c
Le Touq't	9	41	c	Venice	17	63	s
Lisbon	13	55	f	Vienna	17	63	f
Locarno	16	61	c	Warsaw	16	61	f
L Angels*	16	61	s	Wash'ton*	9	48	r
Luxemb'g	19	66	s	Wel'ton	17	63	s
Luxor	33	91	s	Zurich	16	61	s

* denotes Saturday's figures are latest available

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	10.4	.10	12	54	sunny
Aviemore	5.0	.13	10	50	bright
Belfast	1.5	-	10	50	cloudy
Birmingham	0.4	-	11	52	cloudy
Blackpool	3.4	-	14	57	cloudy
Bournemouth	11.4	-	20	68	sunny
Brighton	11.5	-	21	70	sunny
Bristol	7.8	-	16	61	bright
Cardiff	9.5	-	16	61	sunny
Colwyn Bay	1.8	-	12	54	cloudy
Douglas	5.7	.07	12	52	bright
Edinburgh	6.9	.18	11	52	bright
Eskdalemuir	1.2	.03	8	46	bright
Exmouth	9.1	-	18	64	sunny
Falmouth	10.0	-	19	66	sunny
Glasgow	4.5	.14	12	54	bright
Guernsey	10.1	.07	15	59	sunny
Hastings	11.4	-	20	68	sunny
Ilfracombe	X	-	17	63	sunny
Jersey	8.4	.05	20	68	sunny
Leeds	-	.01	9	48	cloudy
Lerwick	8.4	.01	10	50	sunny
London	10.5	-	18	64	sunny
Lowestoft	9.5	-	15	59	sunny
Manchester	8.9	-	13	55	sunny
Minehead	6.6	-	15	59	bright
Morecambe	5.5	-	13	55	bright
Nottingham	-	-	13	55	cloudy
Penzance	6.4	.01	16	64	sunny
Plymouth	10.1	-	x	x	sunny
Poole	10.5	-	20	68	sunny
Sandown	11.2	-	19	66	sunny
Scarborough	1.2	-	7	45	cloudy
Selby lakes	4.1	-	18	65	sunny
Shanklin	11.0	-	20	68	sunny
Southend	11.8	-	20	68	sunny
St. Ives	5.4	-	13	55	sunny
Swanage	10.5	-	19	66	sunny
Teignmouth	10.3	-	19	66	sunny
Tenby	10.2	-	17	63	sunny
Tiree	12.3	-	10	50	sunny
Torquay	9.2	-	19	66	sunny
Weymouth	10.2	.06	20	68	sunny
Wick	10.0	.06	10	50	sunny
Worthing	11.4	-	21	70	sunny

* denotes Not Available
These are Saturday's figures

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.37	2.22
Austria Sch	22.00	22.60
Belgium Fr	64.30	60.30
Canada $	2.185	2.015
Denmark Kr	11.97	11.27
Finland Mrk	7.43	6.98
France Fr	10.51	9.86
Germany Dm	3.125	2.925
Greece Dr	358	316
Hong Kong $	14.45	13.45
Ireland Pt	1.160	1.090
Italy Lire	2350	2180
Japan Yen	259	241
Netherlands Gld	3.505	3.295
Norway Kr	12.13	11.43
Portugal Esc	268.75	252.25
South Africa Rd	5.35	4.85
Spain Pta	192	179
Sweden Kr	11.29	10.61
Switzerland Fr	2.64	2.47
Turkey Lira	7200	6400
USA $	1.978	1.783
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.00	28.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

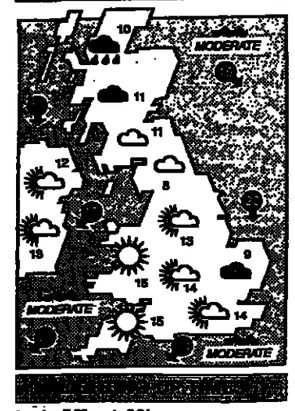
Yesterday: Temps: max 6am to 6pm, 16C (59F); min 6pm to 6am, -2C (28F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11.4 hr.

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouca,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heredfs & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 34p per minute (cheap rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.





Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	10	50	s	Guernsey	7	45	c
B'mingham	10	50	s	Inverness	10	50	f
Blackpool	12	54	s	Jersey	9	48	c
Bristol	10	50	s	London	10	50	c
Cardiff	12	54	s	M'nchester	11	52	s
Edinburgh	9	48	f	Newcastle	8	46	f
Glasgow	11	52	s	R'midwey	10	50	s

Saturday: day temp: Eastbourne, and East Hoathly, Sussex, 21C (70F); lowest day max: Scarborough, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Edinburgh, 0.18 in; highest sunshine: Tiree, Inner Hebrides, 12.3 hr.

London 7.55 pm to 5.04 am
Bristol 8.06 pm to 6.14 am
Edinburgh 8.18 pm to 6.08 am
Manchester 8.09 pm to 6.08 am
Penzance 8.15 pm to 6.28 am

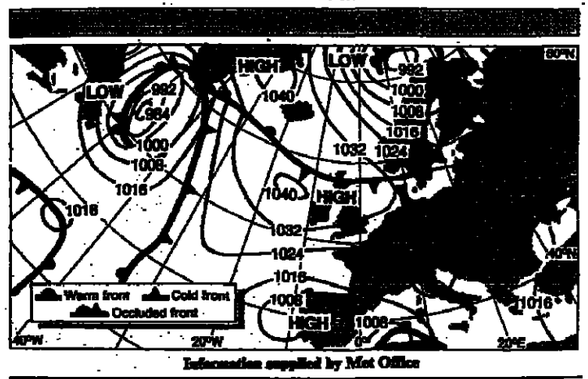
Sun rises: 6.06 am — Sun sets: 7.56 pm
Moon rises 5.49 am — Moon sets 9.30 pm
First Quarter April 21

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 13C (55F); min 6pm to 6am,5C (41F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 11.3 hr.

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.45	7.1	3.13	7.2
Aberdeen	2.20	4.1	2.24	4.3
Avonmouth	8.23	13.5	8.42	13.6
Belfast	—	—	12.02	3.4
Cardiff	8.08	12.5	8.27	12.5
Devonport	7.14	5.6	7.36	5.5
Dover	—	—	12.02	6.6
Falmouth	8.44	5.4	7.06	5.3
Glasgow	1.55	4.6	2.14	4.8
Harwich	12.44	3.9	1.12	4.0
Holyhead	11.20	5.7	11.41	5.6
Hull	7.25	7.4	7.36	7.6
Ilfracombe	7.05	9.3	7.34	9.4
King's Lynn	7.41	6.5	7.45	6.9
Leith	3.34	5.5	3.46	5.7

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	12.04	9.3	12.22	9.8
Lowestoft	10.46	2.3	10.48	2.5
Margate	12.39	4.8	1.17	4.8
Milford Haven	7.19	7.2	7.38	7.2
Newquay	6.09	7.2	6.28	7.2
Oban	6.52	4.2	7.04	4.0
Penzance	6.10	5.7	6.33	5.6
Portland	8.09	2.2	8.36	2.2
Portsmouth	12.14	4.6	12.29	4.5
Shoreham	—	—	12.17	6.2
Southampton	—	—	12.01	4.5
Swansea	7.25	9.8	7.42	9.8
Tees	4.42	5.3	4.50	5.5
Wilton-on-Nze	12.37	4.2	1.04	4.2

Tide in metres: 1m=3.280ft.



Information supplied by Met Office

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Southern loans

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- EDUCATION 26,27
- LAW 29
- SPORT 29-34

BUSINESS

Business Editor
John Bell

MONDAY APRIL 15 1991

Firms see end to financial services slump

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

THE steep downturn in the financial services industry since last summer appears to be coming to an end, according to a Confederation of British Industry survey.

Firms still expect, however, to continue cutting jobs and paring investment.

The survey, conducted with Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte, the accountant, says firms now see an end to the sharp fall in business volumes and expect the decline to come to a halt over the next three months.

Banks, finance houses, and general insurance companies are, however, considerably more cautious about the prospects than the financial services industry in general, anticipating continued decline.

Information for the quarterly survey was gathered from 336 companies in the first three weeks of March, and subsequent cuts in interest rates are likely to have boosted confidence further.

During the survey period, business confidence in financial services continued to deteriorate, but much more slowly than last year.

Some 28 per cent of respondents were more optimistic about the business situation, while 33 per cent were less optimistic. In the January survey, only 13 per cent were more optimistic and 56 per cent less.

Only 18 per cent reported higher business volumes in the first quarter, but some 22 per cent expect volumes to be higher in the second. Those expecting a decline in the current quarter dropped to 23 per cent, after 62 per cent saw lower business volumes in the first quarter.

Average spreads, commissions, fees and premiums have widened this year and are expected to improve further. Cost pressures have eased as jobs have been cut. The overall decline in profitability, which hit banking, is expected to slow, but competitiveness against firms abroad is seen as improving further in the months ahead.

Meanwhile, an upsurge in takeover activity of all kinds, from purchases of small unquoted companies to large cross-border deals, can be expected later this year, according to two accountancy firms.

The predictions will bring cheer to a global corporate finance industry suffering its worst deal drought in a decade. Latest figures from KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock show that the value of all cross-border acquisitions slumped to $9.79 billion in the first quarter of 1989, 67 per cent lower than the same period in 1990. Cross-border purchases of minority stakes also fell sharply, with activity down 42 per cent at $3.1 billion in the first quarter.

However, according to Richard Agutter, head of KPMG's global mergers and acquisitions network, an increase in enquiries from clients suggests that the figures will start to show a recovery this year. He said: "We are being contacted by an increasing number of non-EC companies wanting to buy in Europe." He expects the upswing in activity to be evident towards the end of this year.

Prospects are also looking brighter at the other end of the deal size range, according to David Howard, a partner at Ernst & Young Corporate Finance. He believes the recovery will be driven by the large gap between stock market price/earnings ratios and those of unquoted companies being put up for sale.

☐ Independent Treasury Economic Modelling (ITEM), using the Treasury's model for the whole economy, forecasts a "disappointingly weak" recovery from the recession. It foresees a fall of 3 per cent in the gross domestic product in the first half, with recovery setting in the summer.

By end-year, however, ITEM expects the economy to be only 0.2 per cent ahead of where it was at the end of last year, with non-oil growth next year of only 1.3 per cent, well below the Treasury's estimate.

Microvitec challenges Logitek

MICROVITEC, the computer perhiperals manufacturer, will this week challenge Logitek, the computer services group, to publish its results for the year to end-March. The fresh challenge follows last week's rejection by the Logitek board of Microvitec's £3.3 million all share bid. The board said Microvitec's offer was misconceived and contained minimal commercial logic.

In a letter posted to Logitek shareholders over the weekend, Microvitec estimated that Logitek's gearing could be more than 80 per cent, compared with the estimated 20 per cent gearing that an enlarged group would have. Although Microvitec itself is loss-making, having reported a £2.4 million loss in 1990, the board says losses are reducing and the final quarter was profitable.

Post-boom virus, page 25

Fuchs lifts stake

Fuchs, the privately owned German lubricants manufacturer, has increased its stake in Century Oils Group, the British company for which it has made a hostile bid, to 31.6 per cent.

The increase follows a final cash offer last week of 145p per share valuing Century at £46.2 million, against the original offer of 110p. Fuchs said in its latest offer document that the increase in its holding came after shareholders representing 18.2 per cent of Century's shares sold their stakes last week. The offer will close at 1pm on Monday, April 29.

Southern loans

Southern Water said it has taken out a second loan from the European Investment Bank, after the £40 million facility arranged in September. The new £55 million loan will be used to finance a number of environmental improvement schemes.

Brent Walker set to pull out of Troc

By Matthew Bond

BRENT Walker and Power Corporation are today expected to announce a conditional agreement under which the two companies will separate their London property interests, the biggest of which is the Trocadero centre, near Piccadilly Circus.

Assuming Brent Walker's bankers approve the deal, Brent Walker will swap its 50 per cent interest in the Troc for a 100 per cent interest in an island site that houses 40 buildings next to the Troc. The conditional deal comes a few weeks before Brent Walker and the banks to which it owes about £1.4 billion are expected to agree a permanent refinancing of the company.

The Trocadero and the island site are owned by Walker Power, an off-the-balance sheet vehicle, that acquired them in 1987 for £100 million from Brent Walker. Brent Walker had paid Electricty Supply Nominees £90 million for the two sites only three months before.

The latest deal is designed to suit both companies. Brent Walker has found it impossible to find an outside buyer for its half of the Troc, partly because the shopping, leisure and office complex is being refurbished. The island site buildings, however, could be sold long before work on the Troc is completed.

Power Corporation remains committed to the Troc, which Weatherall Green & Smith, the agent, last year indicated could be worth up to £350 million on completion, although values have since fallen.

If the deal proceeds, Power will keep the Troc off balance sheet in the, by then, 100 per owned-Walker Power. Walker Power has drawn down £170 million of a £270 million facility arranged with Sanwa, the Japanese bank. However, after completion, it is expected to look for a partner to replace Brent Walker. Robin Power, chairman of Walker Power, may turn to Japan for a long-term partner.

The deal should reduce Brent Walker's gearing. The island site properties could generate between £60 million and £90 million. Before Brent Walker's bankers approve the deal, they will want to ensure that the proceeds compensate for the 50 per cent stake of the Troc passing to Power Corp.



JULIAN HERBERT

Poor reflection on Coats: Anthony Habgood, of Tootal, says the rival group has not shown necessary skills

G7 ministers chart new economic order

By Our Economics Staff

FINANCE ministers of the Group of Seven (G7) leading industrial nations last night began the search for ways of containing the cost of establishing free market economies in the former Soviet bloc and rebuilding the war-ravaged Middle East.

An informal dinner, hosted at 11 Downing Street by Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, came on the eve of the inauguration of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), which will be attended by presidents, prime ministers and finances ministers from nearly 40 countries. The exceptional assembly of dignitaries underlines the importance attached to the creation in 18 months of the new institution.

The new economic order that has emerged since the end of the Cold War has broadened the scope for G7 policy coordination, shifting the emphasis away from exchange rate and interest rate coordination that used to dominate.

Finance ministers are seeking closer policy coordination to take account of the far-reaching changes over the past two years to the prospects for the world economy. The G7 countries, Britain, America, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan, are fearful that the demand for funds to pay for restoring normality to the Gulf region and economic revolution in Eastern Europe could put an unwelcome burden on the world economy.

Mr Lamont held bilateral talks with Theo Waigel, the German finance minister, before the G7 dinner, building on the improvement in Anglo-German relations since John Major became prime minister.

Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary, has made clear that he wants to keep a low profile in London, with no new policy decisions or initatives. Instead, general discussions with other ministers this week will be preparation for formal talks in conjunction with the meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund, in Washington, this month.

Mr Brady and his French counterpart, Pierre Bérégovoy, agreed in Paris last week on the need to reinforce policy coordination to contain any upward drift in inflation.

Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, made clear on Friday, however, he was not prepared to pursue a more relaxed monetary policy. The inaugural session to launch the European Bank will start today with a meeting, which will last until Wednesday, of its shareholders in London.

The European Bank will have its headquarters in London, although it has not yet found a permanent location.

☐ The Asian Development Bank, said in its annual report yesterday, that the capital needs of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union will lead to a credit shortage throughout this year causing "continued high real interest rates which would further increase the risk of recession".

Leading article, page 15
Economic view, page 23
Attali priority, page 23

Tootal attacks Coats

TOOTAL, the textiles group fighting a £194 million hostile takeover from Coats Viyella, has strongly criticised the financial track record of its would-be owner.

In a document sent to its shareholders yesterday, Tootal claims: "Coats' record suggests that it is unable to make a success of major acquisitions while simultaneously developing its core business. It has not demonstrated the management skills necessary to integrate acquisitions effectively."

The document says that Vantona Viyella and Coats Patons made almost £50 million more profit as separate groups in 1985 than they did as a merged group last year. Coats has not published a figure for the costs of achieving the merger benefits that it claims, Tootal says.

Anthony Habgood, Tootal's chief executive, said: "We believe that Coats is trying to buy Tootal at this low point in the textiles cycle to disguise its own commercial failures."

However, Neville Bain, Coats Viyella's chief executive, said the Coats-Viyella merger had been successful.

Williams replaces line of credit

By Our City Staff

WILLIAMS US Holdings, the American subsidiary of Williams Holdings, has replaced $200 million of existing bank borrowings with a line of finance provided by Prudential Insurance Company of America.

The Pru is to supply ten-year money to Williams US by buying an entire issue of fixed-rate notes issued by the subsidiary. The notes, issued at par, carry a coupon of 9.65 per cent and are repayable between 2000 and 2002. The British parent company has guaranteed the issue.

The new money will be used to refinance existing borrowings by American subsidiaries of Yale & Valor, the locks and domestic appliances group that Williams bought for £330 million in February.

Nigel Rudd, the Williams chairman, said: "We are very pleased to enter into this agreement with the Prudential for the provision of 10-year funding at attractive rates."

He added: "The proceeds will replace bank borrowings, strengthening the basis for the continuing growth of our US business."

John Strangfield, chairman of PIC Europe, Prudential's London affiliate, said the issue was the largest that the Prudential had completed for a European company.

"The Prudential Insurance Company of America is delighted to provide financing for the Williams Group. We hope that this financing will be the beginning of a long term relationship with Williams," he said.

CHANGE ON WEEK

US dollar
1.7770 (–0.0020)

W German mark
2.9924 (+0.0135)

Exchange index
93.0 (+0.2)

FT 30 Share
1997.5 (–17.0)

FT-SE 100
2526.1 (–19.2)

New York Dow Jones
2920.79 (+24.01)

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
26582.50 (–184.83)

Chrysler chairman's pay rises to £2.5m

From Philip Robinson in New York

LEE Iacocca, chairman of Chrysler, the troubled American car group, received a 15 per cent rise in pay and bonuses last year to £2.5 million, as profits sank 80 per cent and the dividend was halved.

The rise, disclosed in documents at the weekend, has brought sharp criticism from Owen Bieber, United Automobile Workers' president, a past member of the Chrysler board. Mr Bieber said: "If there is a rationale for this, other than greed, we are mystified as to what it is."

Chrysler also bought two of Mr Iacocca's homes at an independent valuation of $1.6 million. The company has began a $3 billion cost-cutting programme, is negotiating with its banks to reschedule debts, and is expected to make a loss in the first three months of this year of between $200 million and $300 million.

At Ford, which cut its dividend by 47 per cent to 40 cents a share last week, Harold Poling, the chairman, saw his pay and bonus last year fall 59 per cent to $1.2 million, when the company's net profits dropped almost 80 per cent to $860 million.

Pay details for General Motors are expected soon.

All the 'suits' from Aakvaag to Zuriga

By Philip Bassett
Industrial Editor

AFTER the entrepreneurial Eighties, Britain's captains of industry are all savvy, streetwise, self-made hardball players who have dragged themselves up by their bootstraps to run British business. Aren't they?

No. According to a new analysis of 10,000 senior figures in British industry, they are still largely male, middle-aged, golf-playing accountants via public school and Oxbridge.

The dominance of men in grey suits is clearly indicated by the entries in a new compendium that shows British industry elevated to new heights of social acceptance: the publication today of *Who's Who in Industry*.

Totally unconnected with the real *Who's Who*, the vade mecum of who runs Britain that has been published since 1849, *Who's Who in Industry* for some reason bears an uncanny resemblance: same size; same shape; same thickness; same red cover.

Using current guides such as the *Times 1000*, the editors took as their base range all British industrial companies with a turnover of more than £90 million, allocating each of the resulting list of 1,600 a number of entries based on turnover size.



Young: was not included

In the end, the total number of entrants is 10,000, and despite pleas for exclusion from about 20 individuals, nobody has been left out. Knowingly, that is. "Researching such publications", its editors say, "particularly for the first time, is a hazardous undertaking and we are aware omissions will be quickly spotted".

Two spotted straightaway: no Lord Young, chairman of Cable and Wireless, and clearly one of Britain's most prominent industrialists. Unfortunately for a reference work on British industry, no industry secretary either: Peter Lilley, secretary of state for trade and industry, does not manage to make the volume's 964 pages (though ten of his civil servants do).

Other problems include British Aerospace not making the index (the book is indexed by company, sector and town), though Professor Roland Smith, BAe's chairman has an entry.

But from Aakvaag, Torvild, a director of Norsk Hydro UK, the first entry, to Zuriga, Richard, a director of CPC UK, who brings up the rear of the volume, *Who's Who in Industry is, says Banham, John, director* general of the Confederation of British Industry, "a valuable source of reference for those who need to keep in touch with leading directors and managers. "Not *too* closely in touch, though: unlike the real *Who's Who*, this directory includes no home telephone numbers or addresses.

Forty-two per cent of entrants are aged between 45 and 55. Only 7.3 per cent are under 40, with the youngest aged 23 and the oldest aged 89. British business leaders, according to this sample, are still overwhelmingly male: fewer than 2 per cent of the entrants are women. Taurus is the most popular business starsign.

Nearly 10 per cent of all those listed attended the ten top public schools, and as many as 28.2 per cent of entrants went to either Oxford or Cambridge, suggesting that both public schools and Britain's oldest universities are still over-represented in the boardroom. Just over 20 per cent of all entrants are accountants.

Unsurprisingly, golf is the most popular sport, listed by a third of all entrants. But Covent Garden's magnetism for industrialists is not borne out by the statistics. Only 5 per cent have opera as a recreation of choice and only 0.1 per cent ballet.

Finally, 2 per cent of entrants list DIY as a recreation. Clearly, some need to: Timothy Elster, human resources director at the Parkfield Group lists as a recreation – "decrepit home."

PS: my entry – *associated* entry – is wrong. Twice.

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Redundancy figures revised as job cuts rise

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

THE government has revised its official redundancy figures to take account of the mounting job losses announced by companies as the recession bites harder.

The unannounced changes, discovered in an analysis by *The Times* of unemployment figures, add nearly 6,000 job losses to the number of confirmed redundancies across the economy in the year to February, the last month for which full figures are available.

Some business leaders had become increasingly sceptical of the redundancy figures published monthly by the employment department. They suspected the government was either under-recording the rising number of job losses or that the figures lagged so far behind job loss announcements that their usefulness as an economic indicator was reduced.

New figures to be published by the government this week will show that seasonally adjusted unemployment has risen beyond two million for the first time in the recession, pushed up by the lengthening list of redundancies.

The Times' computer analysis of employment department data shows that the number of confirmed redundancies across the whole economy year-on-year for the 12 months to February was 136,154. The numbers increased markedly towards the end of last year as the economy moved further into recession. However, redundancies appeared to tail off markedly in December and January, falling from 15,652 in November to 5,836 in January. The decline fueled the hopes of some that the recession might be bottoming out.

But in unpublicised data issued by the government recently, virtually all the figures for confirmed redundancies in these two months have been revised upwards, pushing up by 5,888, or 4.5 per cent, the total number of redundancies recorded by the employment department year-on-year.

The number of confirmed redundancies in the Southeast in January, for instance, was revised from 388 to 1,032. In the South-west, the total of 1,492 in December has been revised to 2,201. In the West Midlands, redundancies in January have been revised from 1,290 to 2,464.

Regionally, the highest revision has been in the South-west and in the Southeast outside London, which is also the area that has seen the highest increase in overall unemployment.

TED BATH



Casino corner: Max Kingsley (centre) at Les Ambassadeurs with chef John King and manager John Grant

London Clubs gambles on float

By MARTIN WALLER

LONDON Clubs International, the casino group spun out of Grand Metropolitan in a £120 million management buy-out in 1979, is set to try its hand on the stockmarket wheel of fortune at a future date.

The group has just reopened the Les Ambassadeurs Club at Hyde Park Corner after an £8 million facelift. Its flagship remains the Ritz Casino, and there are other clubs elsewhere in London, in Cairo, in Cannes and on board Cunard cruise liners.

Les Ambassadeurs was built in the last century as a home for the Rothschild family, at which time the heavily ornamented interior was regarded by London society as the height of ostentation, not to say vulgarity. Such are the powers of English Heritage now that not a single feature could be removed as the refurbishment was carried out, including a decidedly Fifties extension into the gardens.

London Clubs is purely a casino group, with no intentions of ever being anything else, in contrast to some of the leisure conglomerates that flourished and withered at the tail end of the Eighties. "We don't want to buy hotels, bingo halls or dance halls," says Max Kingsley, managing director. There are plans to expand into Europe, and into Australia and Cyprus once local laws allow.

A flotation this year is feasible, Mr Kingsley says, but would require a drastic change in the market's perception of leisure stocks, where ratings are in the doldrums in the wake of numerous well-publicised failures.

An eventual float looks inevitable, says Barry Hardy, the finance director who as a former managing director of Mecca Leisure's casino division is no stranger to the City. "Market attitudes can change very quickly, if people are prepared to view us in an open-minded way," Mr Kingsley adds.

A more recent cause for concern was the Gulf land war, which severely dented revenues. The onset of Ramadan has caused the normal seasonal downturn, but, says the managing director, "I think there's every sign that by the end of this month things will be back to normal." With four pounds in every five that land on the gaming tables coming from overseas, the recession in the British leisure industry is hardly a factor, he says.

The gaming industry has seen its fair share of dubious players on both sides of the green baize. The London Clubs team is one of the most respected in the industry, and Mr Kingsley has been around since before the 1968 Act that legalised casinos. "We've never, ever had our knuckles rapped by the Gaming Board, I'm pleased to say," he adds.

The only cloud is an ongoing enquiry by the board into one or two of London Clubs' smaller shareholders. If the board objects, the company can under its articles of association require them to divest. The board's operations are confidential, and it has never even formally admitted the investigation, but it had no hesitation in renewing the Les Ambassadeurs licence ahead of this month's re-opening, London Clubs points out.

Pop may fizzle out of soft drinks market

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S fizzy drinks makers are looking ahead to an uncertain summer.

The vagaries of climate this year are compounded by the knowledge that before the month is out, the fruits of a 12-month enquiry into the industry will be on its way from the Monopolies and Mergers Commission to Peter Lilley, the trade secretary.

Mr Lilley has the ability to spoil a spectacular party. A series of scorching summers has helped carbonated soft drinks enjoy staggering growth of 8 per cent a year.

Britvic and Coca Cola & Schweppes, the two dominant players in the industry, together account for more than 51 per cent of all fizzy drinks sold in Britain.

Aided by the weather and rising consumer prosperity, their promotional activities have helped push the value of carbonated drinks sold in Britain past £3.5 billion a year. Yet, consumption of soft drinks in the United Kingdom is still only half the level found in the United States, and two thirds the level in pre-unification Germany.

Coca Cola & Schweppes, jointly formed by Cadbury Schweppes and Coca Cola of America, in 1987, has lifted its sales by 80 per cent in the past four years, while its share of the soft drinks market has risen from 19 per cent to 23 per cent. Within the carbonates sector, it now commands 36 per cent of total sales, against 29 per cent.

The rise has been achieved by a heavyweight marketing programme that this year will top £80 million. Promotional spending has been backed by £200 million of investment in manufacturing and distribution. That has included the development of sales through supermarkets, and the introduction since March 1990 of 25,000 chilled vending machines.

Britvic, controlled by a consortium including PepsiCo of America, and Bass, Whitbread and Allied-Lyons, the British brewers, is believed to have matched its rival's investment pound for pound. It commands 20 per cent of the carbonated drinks market.

When Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of fair trading, announced the enquiry a year ago, he said he was concerned that smaller suppliers were being squeezed out. Some retailers appeared reluctant to stock brands that did not benefit from heavy promotional spending, he said.

However, the market leaders have argued that independent manufacturers, which dominate the own-label market, should have benefited from the "slipstream" effect of their advertising.

This year, a nine-month investigation led the monopolies commission to give Nestlé a clean bill of health, in spite of its domination of the instant coffee market. Fizzy drink makers appear confident that their own record will also pass the commission's scrutiny with flying colours.

Arcadian banks on golf

By OUR CITY STAFF

ARCADIAN International is continuing its move away from commercial property, the business Arcadian inherited when it reversed into Westminster & Country Properties last year, and into golf-related leisure projects.

The company is paying £1 million for a 10 per cent stake in a consortium that is developing a 300-acre site near Seville in Spain. The consortium is planning to build a £30 million hotel and country club as well as 300 luxury houses.

At the same time, Arcadian has sold a Glasgow office block for £1.5 million, taking the total raised by British property sales to £3 million. Arcardian's board is losing two directors who date back to Westminster & Country, Bob Burnett and Max Ashton, the finance director.

Bids for TV licences made tax-deductible

By MELINDA WITTSTOCK, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

CASH bids for the new Channel 3 television licences will now be tax-deductible, following a change of heart by the government, which admitted it had made a "mistake" in categorising bids as capital expenditure subject to corporation tax rather than a revenue expense.

The change follows more than a year of lobbying by the existing ITV franchise holders, and means that all bid applications will have to be reworked before the May 15 deadline. It also means that bidders will be able to afford to raise their cash bids by as much as 50 per cent, said Rob Matthews, head of broadcasting and media at Arthur Anderson, the accountant. "Many bidders will have to alter their sums, now that they will be able to afford to bid much more," he said.

The size of the cash bids, payable to the Treasury each month, will determine the winners of the new licences, which will run for 10 years from 1993.

Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, wrote to ITV companies on Friday saying that the government had made a mistake. His decision comes two months after the prime minister told the Independent Television Commission that the government was not prepared to make cash bids tax-deductible.

Southend to target Frogmore investors

By MATTHEW BOND

MALCOLM Dagul, chairman of Southend Property Holdings, intends to go on the offensive this week in his battle to win over shareholders in Frogmore Estates, the rival property group.

Southend last week sparked the property sector back into life by launching an unsolicited bid for Frogmore. The all shares bid, valuing Frogmore at £128 million, was immediately rejected by the Frogmore board, but Mr Dagul is undaunted.

"What we'll be doing this week is going to the institutions and analysts and selling the deal."

Mr Dagul is also likely to be meeting the Frogmore board, although after last week's strongly worded rejection of the bid, he cannot be confident of a warm reception. "In our original announcement, we said we would be seeking to have talks with them and that is the position."

Like a growing number of observers, Mr Dagul believes the property market has bottomed out. "With sentiment getting better, a good investment company should be gettting out into the market now." Southend's offer document, which is likely to be published next week, may criticise Frogmore's recent strategy, which Mr Dagul says has been to do nothing in order to avoid borrowing.

CAPITAL MARKETS

Time has passed for multi options

FEW of the high-tech banking products developed in the Eighties have emerged with much to recommend them in the very different economic climate of the Nineties. Perhaps the most heavily pushed and most outdated invention was the multi-option facility.

In its heyday the MOF was another product that seemed to square the financing circle. Generous capital adequacy treatment of the auction mechanism – the tender panel – at the heart of the facility meant banks could provide finance at remarkably fine margins and still achieve the required returns.

As conditions changed, the flaws became apparent. The flow of funds from the tender panels dried up, leaving banks on the committed portion to provide finance at throat-cutting rates to credits of deteriorating quality. Meanwhile, borrowers found that the facility covenants, which seemed so comfortable in 1987/8, were being breached, placing the firm's future in doubt. TIP Europe, the trailer rental group, found itself in such a situation this year. Although profitable, the company's high gearing meant it was in breach of an interest cover covenant. In theory that gave the banks the right to demand repayment without notice. Fortunately, the MOF terms were renegotiated, although the banks charged a heavy price for relaxing the covenants.

David Callear, TIP finance director, said: "The funding principle of the MOF seems to be that a large number of banks lend cheaply to a company, which is then placed almost in trust to the banks."

Many of corporate Britain's MOFs are now effectively redundant, having been refinanced with old fashioned, bilateral lending lines. Syndication managers have been left wondering when the next business is going to come their way. Nobody wants to live through the horror of receivership when the First National Bank of Ruritania will not agree a refinancing after a covenant breach.

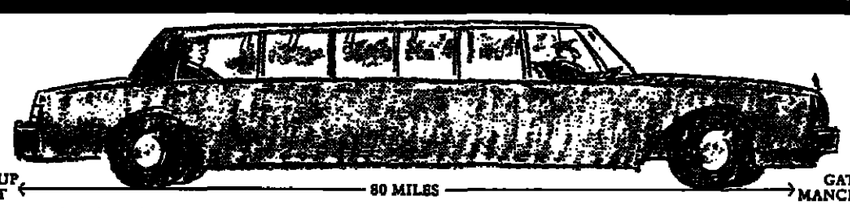
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THE TIMES

Independent banks lose shine

COLIN NARBROUGH

Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, believes that the more independence a central bank enjoys from government, the more effective it is likely to be in the conduct of monetary policy. In his dealings with Karl Otto Pöhl, the Bundesbank president, Mr Leigh-Pemberton may have found a role model. America's Federal Reserve Board, even freer of political interference than the Bundesbank, has provided evidence of the merits of independence.

The Governor, for all his affinity with the concept of the independent central bank, a matter at the heart of plans for a European central bank, is too cautious a man to think of rebellion against the Treasury's right to direct the Old Lady. But, as he disclosed to the Commons Treasury and Civil Service select committee, he would like to have the section of the statute book covering Treasury directions become such a matter of public interest that Parliament would have to resolve the issue.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton, at present, sees the effectiveness of the Bank, to a large extent, turning on the reputation of the Governor and its readiness to oppose the executive. He is, however, fully aware that a fundamental dispute between the Bank and the executive could damage the national interest in the financial markets, which restrains him from provoking a constitutional clash.

The running battle between the Bundesbank and the German government that began with what Herr Pöhl calls the "disaster" of German monetary union, as well as the split that has been troubling the Fed board, have, meanwhile, started to take some of the shine off the attractiveness of the German and American systems. Chancellor Helmut Kohl has over-ridden Herr Pöhl when *political imperatives dictated,* while Alan Greenspan, the Fed chairman, appears to be unable to deliver the easing both he and *President Bush want. Could the* troubles of the German and American central banks change perceptions about the advantages they offer? If that proves the case, the European central bank could turn out somewhat less independent than Herr Pöhl envisages.

The federal structure is a problem for the Fed and the Bundesbank. While Nicholas Brady, the American treasury secretary, has been calling for lower interest rates to ensure recovery from the recession, *Mr Greenspan has* been the prisoner of the 12 presidents of the regional reserve banks. Anti-inflation hawks have *successfully managed to stay the* chairman's hand, much to the disappointment of the markets last week. If the dispute at the *Fed, which reflects different* regional views in a continent-sized economy, are seen to have blocked recovery, a public debate about Fed accountability is likely to break out.

The Bundesbank's problem over the composition of its policy-setting council has arisen from Gemu. To take account of the five new *Länder,* the law is due for change so as to give eastern Germany a say on monetary policy. Herr Pöhl has proposed a *reduction from eleven to seven in* the number of votes afforded the heads of the regional state banks on the Bundesbank council. This *would put them on a par with the* Bundesbank's directorate, reducing the danger of the backwoodsmen taking control. The *regional state banks have other* ideas. They want to increase their votes to 15. A defeat for Herr Pöhl on this issue would underline his impaired credibility.

With Germany restored to full political sovereignty, it might be that the Bonn politicians feel less inhibited about tinkering with the independence of Bundesbank, or other federal institutions. For the grander objective of European monetary union, there would be doubtless many outside Germany who would favour a less assertive German central bank.

Eculand

There has been a lull in the government's campaign to sell its "hard ecu" alternative. Graham Bishop, of Salo*mon Brothers, one of the City's* leading thinkers on the basket currency, has rightly concluded that no time should be lost in *formulating ecu policy,* especially given governments' commitment to enhancing the currency's role. Interestingly, Mr Bishop has discovered "Eculand", the ecu-denominated markets equivalent in financial terms to a small EC member state. At 21 billion ecu, the liquid component of the ecu bond market compares with the Danish government bond market. With the markets convinced Emu will come about, the fear is that monetary stability could be eroded by a twenty-fold rise in the use of private ecu, *outside* the direct control of the central banking system.

Here, Mr Bishop sees an urgent need for a public sector currency board to restore the link between the ecu and it basket currencies. This sounds rather like the government's European monetary fund proposal. Alongside such a board, Mr Bishop calls for an early hardening of the basket currency, not creating a new parallel currency, as the Treasury advocates.

A face-saving option for Norman Lamont, the Chancellor, would now be to drop the hard ecu but push ahead for a currency board. That is what the market wants.

Attali must find right balance for east Europe

JACQUES Attali, president of the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, said last October that the bank's role would be to encourage the people of east Europe, especially after the first setbacks and disappointments of economic freedom.

Few, including M Attali himself, would have expected these setbacks to have come so soon, even before the official inauguration of the European Bank, which takes place in London today.

Ironically, however, it is the embryonic European Bank that appears to be in need of comfort, after having been under constant attack. The criticisms mainly relate to the bank's difficulty in recruiting sufficiently heavyweight directors and staff. Most of the attacks were directed at M Attali, a French socialist, writer and academic, and former chief adviser to François Mitterrand, with critics accusing him of arrogance and power-building.

The changing view of the European Bank, the first international institution of significance to be based in London, *reflects the general assessment* of events in central and east Europe. The mood of jubilation that followed the liberalisation of east Europe and the first cautious steps towards a market economy, has given way to scepticism, if not

ALAN WELLER



Tackling the politics of investment: Jacques Attali

western aid and investment into the region, thereby helping to ensure an "orderly" transition from a state economy to a free market system. Such a transition was widely welcomed at the time.

In Germany, the assassination this month of Detlev Rohwedder, head of the *Treuhand,* the German privatisation agency, added to the widely felt despair. In Czechoslovakia and Hungary, the governments are aware that the toughest economic decisions, relating to company closures and subsidies, cannot be avoided for much longer. As enthusiasm for the region has waned, so too has that for the European Bank.

The idea for the bank was conceived by M Attali during the political upheavals in east Europe in the latter part of 1989. The bank's rationale was to coordinate and channel The shareholders include the *Soviet Union and east* European countries. Notably absent is Switzerland.

The European Bank's official role is somewhat less emotive than M Attali's hyperbole. It is a hybrid of an international institution; part investment bank, part traditional development bank. Of the bank's $12 billion capital, 60 per cent will go as equity and loans into private sector enterprises, while the remainder is earmarked for public sector projects, ranging from sewerage systems to telephones and the environment.

The public sector element is straightforward and is based on the realisation that an adequate infrastructure is a prerequisite to attracting private capital.

The private sector activities of the bank will involve the the most delicate issues. Like a commercial investment bank, it will invest and advise. There is little information about specific projects, but it is believed that in Poland, for example, the bank will be the main co-ordinator of the privatisation process. In Czechoslovakia, where the government plans to privatise the economy by giving vouchers to every citizen, the bank's role will be more specific: it will assist in the establishment of *financial institutions,* necessary if vouchers, which essentially represent investment money, are to be translated into shares and profits.

M Attali needs a thick skin. The criticism levelled at him now will seem small compared with the attacks he is likely to suffer once the bank starts to take painful decisions, or at least advises governments to do so. The *Treuhand* became widely unpopular in Germany after it was realised that privatisation also meant higher unemployment.

Of equal political sensitivity will be the bank's lending policies. Like the International Finance Corporation, an affiliate of the World Bank, the European Bank will invest or lend to private sector projects. But "viable" projects *may only occur in those east* European nations, such as east Germany and Hungary, perceived to be better-off, leaving those requiring investment, such as Bulgaria and Romania, still in need.

The politics of investment will be controversial, and M Attali's 40 shareholders will be uncomfortable partners. The bank will succeed only if it operates as independently as can be expected. Having an allegedly arrogant man at its helm may be the best way the bank can achieve this.

WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU
European Business Correspondent

Politics cloud prospects for prices

GILT-EDGED

CAN the gilt-edged market extend the impressive rally seen since mid-November, or will it drift towards yet another phase of self-destruction? This is likely to be the question taxing the minds of investors in the weeks ahead.

At the start of the new quarter, long-dated gilt prices came tantalisingly close to surpassing the highs registered at the end of the Gulf war. In the event, the failure of international bond markets to provide a positive lead, together with the burden of additional supply, left the top end of the recent trading range intact.

Three factors in particular have to be examined to determine whether a successful assault on the mid-February high can be mounted — the prospects for the domestic economy, the performance of international bond markets and the political background.

The much publicised burden of prospective sterling bond issuance, boosted in the years ahead by the deterioration in public sector finances, does not feature in this list.

Experience shows that the prospect of heavy funding will be regarded as a minor inconvenience in a bull market, although it will always compound the woes of investors during the bear phase.

Britain's economic performance should remain a positive influence for bonds. Declining inflation, the falling rate of wage settlements — albeit slow and not without a certain amount of friction — and the improving trade balance, are but a few of the factors underpinning optimism. But since the Budget, most of these trends have been well and truly discounted by the investment community.

International factors promise to remain of crucial importance. With the exception of Germany, the trend in global interest rates is expected to remain favourable.

However, signals from American officials and the performance of some economic indicators suggest that most of the monetary easing has probably taken place.

Dollar strength should benefit sterling's position within the European exchange-rate mechanism, but without falling *American rates to fuel the* international bond market rally, there is a limit to how much further the rise in sterling bond prices can go without a special motivating factor.

The third consideration is likely to have the greatest impact on sentiment over the medium term. After a welcome respite during Parliament's Easter recess, the so-called political question is due to regain prominence.

The problems associated with the poll tax promise to be a thorn in the side of the Conservative party and in this respect the local government elections are viewed as a crucial test of the government's popularity. At present it seems likely that politics will continue to exert a negative influence on prices.

It will require a significant shift in the government's popularity to push yields substantially below present levels. This has happened before — as recently as 1987. Then, the surge in the government's election chances to a position of near-certainty was an important factor, which sustained the gilt rally.

It is difficult, however, to find many similarities between then and now. True, interest rates and inflation may be falling and real disposable income may begin to rise again, but in 1987 the poll tax and its related problems were non-existent. More importantly, the business cycle was at a stage where it could be used — via tax cuts, falling unemployment and so forth — to the benefit of those in power. And the icing on the cake for gilt investors was the clear evidence of the dramatic shift in public sector finances towards surplus and hence the promise of a steep fall in the supply of paper to the market.

This year the background is much less rosy. The local elections next month provide the first steps in what is likely to be an uncertain run-up to the general election. Of course, the government's popularity may *still* improve dramatically. But with the problems of the poll tax unlikely to evaporate entirely, and the prime *minister's political* honeymoon drawing to a close, the balance of probability tends to point the other way.

On all three counts, therefore, it would be difficult to argue that the performance of gilts will be anything other *than uninspiring in the* months ahead.

CHRIS ANTHONY
UBS Phillips & Drew

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Sticky Bunn the last to go

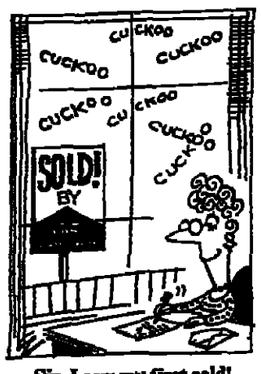
RICHARD "Sticky" Bunn, the last of the old Hoare & Co partners to stay on after the merger with Govett, has called it a day. Bunn, like many of his contemporaries, has opted for early retirement — *he is 55* — while there is still time to take on new challenges. A jovial figure, he shared an office for the past 15 years with Laurie Conner, deputy chairman of Hoare Govett, and the only Govett & Co partner *still at the firm.* "He felt, as I feel, that if you go at 55 or 56 there is plenty of time to do something else," says Conner, aged 54, who may take the same route once the management buyout from Security Pacific is completed. "It has taken much longer than we expected, but should be wrapped up in another two or three months." Bunn, an actuary, joined the small research team at Hoare & Co before switching, in the mid-Sixties, to work in the corporate finance department under Ben Yeats-Brown. He plans to spend time "working on his golf swing" in South Devon, while mulling over the prospect of one or two non-executive directorships.

Un-Savary dress

PETER de Savary has never been one to take the City too seriously. All the same, diners emerging from the Savoy last week were amused to spot him wearing little more than a pair of shorts and a Hawaiian shirt. He was also sporting a deep tan, having just spent several weeks in the Caribbean on one of his many yachts. Business lunches may never be the same again.

Bishop's move

KROLL Associates, hot in pursuit of the $33 billion or so in Iraqi funds that may be in Britain, took a break last week to welcome a rival to the fold. Kroll's UK agents were among nearly 100 at the Lloyd's Club on Thursday evening for the launch of Bishop Investigations, a financial investigation firm led by Bob Bishop. "We are not a Kroll and don't see them as competition," says Peter Steger, the managing director and a former Kroll man, who worked with George Churchill-Coleman, head of the anti-terrorist squad, during his 28 years at Scotland Yard. "Much of our work will involve sizing up potential bid targets for acquisitive companies." Bishop is best known for his work on the Brink's-Mat robbery in 1983. He and Steger recovered up to £17 million of *the missing £26 million stolen* in gold bullion. They are still working on the case.



Sir, I saw my first sold! sign this morning . . .

RESEARCHERS in America, presumably with time on their hands, have been browsing through all the laws they can find relating to horses. They have found that it is illegal in Wilbur, Washington, to ride an ugly horse, to swim with a horse in Norfolk, Virginia, and to ride a horse into a tavern in Burns, Oregon — unless the rider pays its cover charge.

Fancied runners

HORSEBOXES and Bentleys will be fighting for a place in Berkeley Square tonight as some of the top names in the racing industry gather for an unusual auction. They are due at the Jack Barclay showroom to bid for 12 stable lads — not with any underhand intention, but to do their bit for RaceAid, the racing charity backed by Lord Vestey and Lord Howard de Walden. The lads, from stables owned by Henry Cecil, John Dunlop and Oliver Sherwood, among others, are to be "sold" to the highest bidder before taking part in the ADT London Marathon on Sunday. The winning owners will share the takings. The Newmarket team is the favourite, according to William Hill, including a two-to-one shot from Henry Cecil's stable. Leading the auction, which promises to be a festive affair amid the Rolls-Royces, is Leslie Weller, soon to become managing director of Sotheby's Europe. RaceAid aims to raise £1 million this year for the Royal Marsden Hospital's cancer appeal.

Galvo rebounds

AFTER what must rank as one of the shortest retirements in the history of the City — a mere three weeks — John "Galvo" Galvanoni has gone back to work. The cigar-toting Galvanoni, who retired as head of Far Eastern trading at Robert Fleming last month, returned from holiday in Spain last week and promptly joined Smith New Court, where he is to set up a new division trading in Japanese derivatives, warrants and convertibles. "Those who know me will know that gardening's not exactly up my street," says Galvanoni, aged 57, who found Smith's offer irresistible. "I have always threatened to write a book, but there's time for one last chapter." Hailed as the king of the dollar premiums in his time at Kidder Peabody during the Seventies, he went on to set up a Japanese market-making division for Robert Fleming in 1979, a task almost identical to the one he is now to perform. David Disbrey, a colleague from his Fleming days, is to run the Tokyo side of the operation, and Galvanoni is looking for "ten experienced people" to join the London team.

JON ASHWORTH

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No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	McKay Secs	Property	
2	Lex Service	Motors,Aircraft	
3	Olive Hldgs	Paper,Print,Adv	
4	Lookers	Motors,Aircraft	
5	Dag Motors	Motors,Aircraft	
6	Goring Kerr	Industrials E-K	
7	Richard (Leics)	Industrials L-R	
8	Powell Duffryn	Transport	
9	Wholesale Fittings	Electricals	
10	Nurdin & Peacock	Foods	
11	Boot (Henry)	Building,Roads	
12	Pifco	Electricals	
13	Sunbld Beech	Industrials S-Z	
14	Cantors 'A'	Drapery,Stores	
15	Tay Homes	Building,Roads	
16	Mb Caradon 7 1-4 Pf	Industrials L-R	
17	Johnstone Press	Newspapers,Pub	
18	Watmough	Paper,Print,Adv	
19	Morrison (W)	Foods	
20	Perkins Foods	Foods	
21	Quadrant Group	Leisure	
22	Wassall	Industrials S-Z	
23	Argyll	Foods	
24	Expamet	Industrials E-K	
25	Logica	Electricals	
26	Domino	Electricals	
27	Maunders (J)	Building,Roads	
28	Harrison Crosfld	Industrials E-K	
29	Asda	Property	
30	Haden MacLellan	Industrials E-K	
31	Granada	Industrials E-K	
32	Boddington	Breweries	
33	First Tech	Electricals	
34	Buckingham Intl	Leisure	
35	Lucas	Motors,Aircraft	
36	BBH Group	Property	
37	Chemring	Industrials A-D	
38	Slough Estates	Property	
39	Laing (J)	Building,Roads	
40	Utd Newspapers	Newspapers,Pub	
41	Home Counties	Newspapers,Pub	
42	Thames Water	Water	
43	WPP	Paper,Print,Adv	
44	Campari	Leisure	

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Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

There were no winners of Saturday's Portfolio Platinum prize of £4,000. The money will be added to next Saturday's weekly game.

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock out-standing £	Stock	Price last Friday	Chge on week	Int only yld%	Gross Red yld%
SHORTS (Under Five Years)					
397m	Treas 9¾	1991	99⅝ +⅛	9.8	..
1250m	Treas 9¾	1991-01	99⅝ ..	9.8	..
1350m	Treas 9¾	1991	99⅝ ..	9.8	..
900m	Treas 12¾	1991	99⅝ ..	10.6	..
1547m	Exch 11¾	1991	99⅝ ..	11.0	..
2150m	Treas 11¾%	1991	99⅝ ..	11.5	..
450m	Treas 9¾	1992	99⅝ ..	9.2	..
1510m	Treas 9¾	1992	97⅝ ..	9.2	..
1350m	Treas 10¾	1992	99⅝ ..	10.1	..
1200m	Treas 12¾	1992	101⅝ ..	10.6	..
1377m	Exch 12¼%	1992	101⅝ ..	12.0	..
750m	Treas 12¾%	1992	101⅝ ..	12.6	..
1650m	Exch 13¼%	1992	103⅝ ..	12.6	..
550m	Treas 8¾	1993	95⅝ +⅛	9.4	..
771m	Treas 9¾%	1993	99⅝ ..	9.6	..
1650m	Treas 10%	1993	99⅝ ..	10.1	..
1149m	Treas 12¾%	1993	104⅝ ..	12.0	..
1200m	Treas 13¾%	1993	107⅝ ..	12.6	..
1720m	Treas 9¾%	1994	99⅝ ..	9.8	..
1544m	Treas 9%	1994	99⅝ ..	9.0	..
1597m	Treas 10%	1994	99⅝ ..	10.1	..
1317m	Exch 12¼%	1994	108⅝ ..	11.3	..
1180m	Exch 13¼%	1994	108⅝ ..	12.3	..
800m	Treas 14¼%	1994	108⅝ ..	13.1	..
150m	Gtd 9¾	1995-05	99⅝ +⅛	9.5	..
2107m	Exch 10¼%	1995	99⅝ ..	10.2	..
249m	Treas 12¾	1995	108⅝ ..	11.4	..
918m	Treas 13¾	1995	108⅝ ..	11.7	..
FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS					
725m	Treas 9¾	1996-00	99⅝ ..	9.3	..
1161m	Conv 10%	1996	99⅝ ..	10.1	..
880m	Exch 13¼%	1996	111⅝ ..	11.9	..
1000m	Treas 13¾	1996	115⅝ ..	12.4	..
1395m	Treas 15¼%	1996	119⅝ ..	12.8	..
2307m	Treas 8%	1997	93⅝ ..	9.4	..
3135m	Exch 10¾%	1997	101⅝ ..	10.4	..
1449m	Treas 11¾%	1997	112⅝ ..	11.5	..
1400m	Exch 13%	1997	123⅝ ..	12.4	..
869m	Treas 8¾%	1998-00	95⅝ ..	7.9	..
2965m	Exch 9¾%	1998	99⅝ ..	10.0	..
1540m	Exch 10%	1998	99⅝ ..	11.0	..
1178m	Treas 13¼%	1998	119⅝ ..	12.5	..
1215m	Treas 9%	1999	97⅝ ..	9.8	..
1220m	Conv 10¾%	1999	102⅝ ..	10.2	..
1270m	Treas 10¾%	1999	102⅝ ..	10.5	..
2004m	Exch 12¼%	1999	119⅝ ..	11.1	..
1083m	Treas 8¾%	2000	96⅝ ..	10.4	..
2953m	Treas 9%	2000	98⅝ ..	9.9	..
2088m	Treas 9%	2001	99⅝ ..	11.5	..
2387m	Conv 9¾%	2001	99⅝ ..	11.2	..
1135m	Treas 10%	2001	99⅝ ..	10.1	..
1153m	Exch 14%	1999-01	117⅝ ..	11.9	..
888m	Exch 9¾%	2002	97⅝ ..	11.0	..
1881m	Treas 10%	2002	99⅝ ..	10.1	..
515m	Conv 10¾%	2003	107⅝ ..	11.4	..
1482m	Treas 10¼%	2000-03	117⅝ ..	11.7	..
2358m	Treas 9½%	1999-04	99⅝ ..	9.6	..
1453m	Treas 10¾%	2003	99⅝ ..	10.7	..
1730m	Treas 11½%	2001-04	107⅝ ..	10.7	..
2884m	Conv 9½%	2005	99⅝ ..	9.5	..
2561m	Treas 12¼%	2003-05	119⅝ ..	10.7	..
OVER FIFTEEN YEARS					
1513m	Treas 8¾	2002-06	94 ..	9.5	..
1235m	Treas 9½%	1997-01	99⅝ ..	9.6	..
3489m	Treas 11¾%	2003-07	111⅝ ..	10.6	..
1669m	Treas 9%	2008	91⅝ ..	9.9	..
1557m	Treas 13¾%	2004-08	124⅝ ..	10.6	..
94m	Treas 9%	2008	91⅝ ..	9.9	..
2976m	Conv 9%	2011	92⅝ ..	9.7	..
652m	Treas 8¾%	2005-10	92⅝ ..	9.5	..
2115m	Treas 9%	2008-11	97⅝ ..	9.3	..
1199m	Exch 12%	2013-17	119⅝ +⅛	10.0	..
UNDATED					
68m	Consols 2½%		39⅝ ..	10.0	..
116m	Treas 3½%		29⅝ ..	10.1	..
28m	Treas 3%		28⅝ ..	10.1	..
577m	War Ln 3½%		39⅝ ..	8.9	..
66m	Conv 4%		39⅝ ..	8.9	..
149m	Consols 4%		39⅝ ..	10.1	..
INDEX-LINKED					
486m	Treas 2 2%	1992	103⅝ ..	..	..
1713m	Treas 2 2%	1994	117⅝ ..	2.1	..
1127m	Treas 2 2%	2001	161⅝ ..	2.9	..
1098m	Treas 2 2%	2003	152⅝ ..	2.9	..
1219m	Treas 2 2%	2006	142⅝ ..	2.9	..
1787m	Treas 2 2%	2011	139⅝ ..	2.9	..
497m	Treas 2 2%	2016	139⅝ ..	2.9	..
1997m	Treas 2 2%	2020	141⅝ ..	2.9	..
1697m	Treas 2 2%	2024	141⅝ ..	2.9	..
852m	Treas 2 2%	2024	141⅝ ..	2.9	..

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

Capitalisation £	Company	Price last Friday	Chge on week	Gross div pence	Div Yld %	P/E
8,747.6m	Abbey National	288	+10	12.7	4.4	9.9
1,111.7m	Allied Irish	171	-3	..	..	..
71.0m	Ansbacher (Henry)	98	..	5.0	5.1	..
1,852.5m	Aus New Z	148	..	..	..	..
4,517.8m	Bankamerica	521½	-1½	..	..	..
953.0m	Bank of Ireland	212	..	21.3	6.3	8.6
1,371.9m	Bank Leumi Israel	280½	..	..	..	..
24.6m	Bank Of Ireland UK	212	..	21.3	6.3	8.6
1,057.4m	Bank Of Scotland	148	-6	8.0	4.9	9.5
13.7m	Bank Of Wales	140	..	5.7	5.5	12.5
7,485.0m	Barclays	472	-2	28.2	6.0	9.1
6,385.9m	Benchmark	16	..	1.0	10.0	..
40.5m	Brown, Shipley	282	..	10.7	4.2	8.1
5,530.0m	Charterhse	464	-4	25.0	7.4	11.4
105.1m	Cater Allen	454	..	23.5	7.4	11.4
77.6m	Cattles	74	-1	3.1	6.9	9.9
——	Chancery	..	..	..	..	..
1,259.4m	Chase Manhattan	499	..	..	..	..
2,845.7m	Citicorp	393	-3	16.9	4.5	10.5
80.5m	Close Bros	382	-4	..	..	..
2,289.4m	Commerzbank	232½	-1½	..	..	..
5,711.2m	Deutsche Bank	374	-1	17.5	5.4	11.3
354.6m	First Nat Fin	302	..	..	..	..
74.4m	GRO	82	..	2.5	3.5	9.2
131.5m	Gerrard Nat	338	..	20.3	6.5	9.2
30.3m	Gimmonds Mahon	317	+3	7.8	2.7	..
2,957.5m	HSBC	1397	-18	..	..	..
473.8m	Hambros	277	..	13.5	5.7	12.4
21.4m	Joseph (Leopold)	488	..	22.5	5.2	10.4
23.7m	King & Shaxson	168	..	11.1	7.1	13.0
415.5m	Kleinwort Benson	332	-2	20.1	6.4	9.6
4,361.0m	Lloyds	362	-17	30.4	8.8	10.3
33.1m	Lon Scot Bk	98	+½	5.7	5.4	10.7
1,747.5m	Midland	333	+14	18.0	5.4	..
2,532.1m	Nat Aust Bk	1255	-5	65.5	5.9	9.1
5,479.0m	Nat West	388	-6	..	..	..

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Capitalisation and change on week

(Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)
ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings begin today. Dealings end April 26. §Contango day April 29. Settlement day May 7.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices are Friday's middle prices. Change, dividend, yield and P/E ratios are calculated on middle prices.

Capitalisation £	Company	Price last Friday	Chge on week	Gross div pence	Div Yld %	P/E
BREWERIES						
4,531.8m	Allied-Lyons	883	+3	33.4	4.5	11.9
3,388.2m	Bass	883	-7	46.3	4.6	9.7
157.4m	Bickfordsm	168	..	8.0	6.5	10.7
120.0m	Bulmer (H P)	320	..	18.0	4.8	17.3
25.2m	Burtonwood Brew	191	..	5.5	4.4	11.3
93.2m	Cheviot (JA)	168	+10	7.1	5.5	18.6
1,220.0m	Fosters Brewing Gp	84	..	..	..	..
6,104.7m	Grand Met	515	-1	37.3	5.3	14.7
402.1m	Greenall Whit	388	+3	19.5	5.0	13.0
162.6m	Greene King	434	+15	18.6	4.1	16.5
8,284.5m	Guinness	913	-1	49.0	5.4	14.5
36.0m	Hardys & Hansons	987	+12	41.0	4.2	17.3
388.1m	Highland Dist	272	+1	8.6	3.2	20.7
203.2m	Invergordon Dist	168	-4	8.7	5.2	19.2
68.5m	Marshfield	208	-10	10.3	4.9	11.3
188.1m	Marston Thompson	214	+4	9.5	4.5	17.4
35.8m	Matthew Clark	264	..	9.5	4.6	13.7
47.0m	Morland	378	-4	8.5	2.1	19.7
2,175.9m	SA Breweries	668	+16	..	..	..
1,541.6m	Scot & Newc	398	-4	19.3	4.7	11.9
313.8m	Vaux Grp	391	+1	11.7	3.1	11.8
2,002.4m	Whitbread 'A'	467	-4	22.4	4.7	13.0
221.1m	Do 'B'	218½	..	22.4	1.5	57.2
326.2m	Wolverhpn & D	580	+1	12.4	2.5	14.1
11.9m	Young 'A'	410	-19	18.0	3.9	19.5
BUILDING, ROADS						
23.6m	Abbey	87	..	..	..	..
397.1m	Amec	257	-4	18.5	5.3	11.8
20.0m	Anglo Sec	68	-4	..	..	..
4,500.0m	Ansells	1688	-4	90	10.0	9.2
493.0m	Arlesrook	238	+10	8.5	2.5	22.4
622.0m	Arrol Ind	198	-4	10.5	3.7	16.8
41.1m	Baggeridge Brick	164	..	6.0	4.0	12.2
3,659.0m	Bailey (Eng) Const	36	-1	1.5	4.5	3.7
207.4m	Barratt Dev	115	-2	12.5	10.4	12.1
490.1m	Beazer PLC	118	-1	10.9	9.2	8.8
68.1m	Bellway	348	-7	14.7b	6.8	14.0
3,946.0m	Bellwhich	1	..	..	..	..
137.8m	Berkeley Gp	395	+12	8.6	1.8	11.9
22.5m	Bett Bros	168	-4	8.0	4.7	11.3
28.7m	Blockleys	117	-4	6.4	5.5	12.8
1,448.8m	Blue Circle	291	-4	15.5	5.7	8.5
27.8m	Boot (Henry)	243	+7	20.5	8.4	12.5
28.7m	Bovis PLC	107	-4	8.0	7.5	8.5
23.2m	Br Dredging	132	-4	8.5	7.7	8.5
257.0m	Bryant	168	-4	6.4	6.2	16.1
36.0m	CRA	45	-4	4.5	4.4	13.4
709.2m	CSR	198	-4	..	..	..
2,780.0m	Caledonad Robey	78	..	3.7	7.1	..
16.6m	Carder Grp	82	-4	6.4	7.8	..
370.5m	Costain	221	-5	16.5	7.7	..
43.6m	Countryside	138	-4	6.0	4.3	..
67.1m	Crest Nicholson	114	-1	10.2	8.9	37.9
10.7m	Crosby Jones	58	-4	3.9	6.7	4.2
21.6m	Dean & Bowes	118	-1	8.0	6.8	8.6
68.0m	Douglas Hld	82	-4	5.0	6.1	8.2
22.2m	Edmond Hdge	44	-4	2.5	5.7	10.7
28.8m	Erith	71	-4	6.2	7.3	17.9
260.0m	Ernest Barden	107	-4	7.5	7.0	6.6
3,260.0m	Ertec Gp	4½	..	..	..	..
73.6m	Galliford	80	-4	5.7	6.5	11.1
1,581.0m	Gibbs & Dandy Ord	84	..	..	..	..
72.5m	Gleeson (MJ)	786	+10	14.4	1.8	10.5
4,124.0m	Grand Metd	165	-1	10.2	10.2	12.1
5,280.0m	Harrison Ind	85	..	5.5	12.5	4.8
188.8m	Hawden-Stuart	44	..	4.5	4.5	9.6
146.1m	Heywood Williams	271	-1	16.7	6.2	11.1
120.4m	Higgs & Hill	361	-7	22.5	6.2	9.6
16.8m	Hour Gp	90	..	10.3	11.4	5.5
5,022.0m	Howard Hdge	1	..	..	..	..
208.8m	Ibstock Johnsen	105	-1	6.0	7.5	12.8
16.8m	Jarvis	78	-4	4.0	5.1	8.4
140.0m	Laing (J)	516	-4	17.5	3.4	17.0
23.5m	Lawrence (Walter)	78	-4	3.0	3.8	10.5
51.8m	Lilley	80½	..	3.5	4.4	8.8
117.0m	Lovell (Y J)	282	-1	11.5	4.1	12.5
69.6m	Mansfield	174	-4	6.5	3.7	12.2
336.2m	Marley	138	-10	8.5	7.1	34.9
88.8m	Marshalls	208	..	6.7	7.0	8.5
28.8m	Mercia Grp	132	-4	6.5	6.2	8.8
110.7m	McAlpine (Alfred)	315	-4	16.3	5.2	27.6
60.4m	McCarthy & S	82	-4	3.5	4.3	..
480.2m	Meyer Int	282	-4	22.5	8.0	10.4
313.8m	Mitchell (John)	388	-4	20.5	5.3	14.8
67.0m	MSM	28	-4	2.4	14.3	5.2
188.8m	Newman Tonks	388	..	12.4	7.5	10.7
218.1m	Pentlemon	377	+1	11.5b	4.2	12.1
5,880.0m	Phoenix Timber	51	-1	1.7	4.1	16.8
18.1m	Ponsford	97½	-4	3.0	4.2	11.3
33.4m	Prowting	165	-4	6.7	5.5	11.7
1,348.8m	RMC Gp	685	-4	28.7	5.7	12.4
140.4m	Raine Ind	111	-4	7.7	9.8	8.9
1,882.5m	Redland	403	-4½	28.0	6.9	11.9
472.1m	Rugby Group	188	-4	9.7	5.2	18.9
201.1m	Shanks & Mcer	188	-4	8.5	4.5	16.8
41.8m	Shelfield Ind	68	-4	3.5	5.2	8.8
18.7m	Smart (J)	138	-4	6.5	4.7	7.7
57.0m	Standa	208	-4	..	..	..
1,858.5m	Tarmac	257	-4	15.0	5.8	8.1
34.8m	Tay Homes	138	-4	6.4	4.6	6.1
845.3m	Taylor Woodrow	264	-10	12.7	5.0	15.1
147.2m	Tilbury Grp	232	..	10.0	4.3	10.1
227.7m	Travis Perkins	324	-4	10.7	4.6	14.2
11.4m	Try Group	78	..	5.0	14.8	5.2
5,439.0m	Turriff	188	..	28.5	20.4	7.6
42.5m	Vibert	105	-4	4.0	3.8	5.3
48.8m	Ward Group	188	..	9.5	5.0	5.3
48.8m	Ward Hdge	138	..	9.5	6.9	..
283.7m	Wates Wate	405	+1	12.4	3.1	13.8
4,105.0m	Wimpey	238	-15	..	..	..
258.0m	Wilson Bowden	488	-12	11.1	2.3	14.1
303.2m	Wilson (Connolly)	388	-8	5.0	2.6	17.3
884.9m	Wimpey G	208	-14	14.0	6.9	24.5
9,900.0m	YRM	75	-4	6.7	8.9	5.6
CHEMICALS, PLASTICS						
404.2m	Allied Colloids	168	-8	4.6	2.8	15.1
166.0m	Amersham	388	-8	16.7	4.3	19.2
66.1m	Anglo Ulst	98	-4	1.9	1.9	14.3
152.2m	BTP	188	-4	11.2	5.6	14.5
5,838.4m	Bayer DM50	291½	..	..	..	..
88.1m	Biagdon	185	+2	12.7	6.5	8.9
60.8m	Bristol Chems	148	-6	8.9	6.5	10.9
34.3m	Caird Gp	91	-4	5.2	5.5	21.0
42.7m	Canning (W)	98	-4	6.2	6.7	6.4
242.8m	Croda	188	-10	14.7	7.8	10.8
169.6m	Ellis & Everard	158	-4	8.5	5.4	12.3
5,088.0m	European Colour	117	-1	8.9	6.5	17.5
88.4m	Evode	121	-4	8.6	7.1	15.7
88.5m	Hickson (James)	288	-4	14.5	5.4	7.9
178.3m	Hickson	152	-6	10.2	6.7	9.4
4,633.2m	Hoechst DM50	283½	..	..	..	..
7,482.1m	Imp Chem Ind	1090	-6	73.5	7.0	12.7
1,098.8m	Laporte	388	-17	28.7	4.9	33.5
35.0m	Leigh	98	-4	6.7	29.5	21.1
3,208.2m	Norsk Hydro	215½	..	..	..	..
85.0m	Peterson Zoch	348	-8	12.7	3.6	11.0
78.8m	Do 'A'	348	-8	12.7	3.7	10.8
1,581.0m	Pilkington	141	-4	8.1	5.7	8.8
1,058.5m	Rexnold	272	-4	4.4	1.6	22.3
——	Scottish Spectrmn	..	..	27†	..	..
60.4m	Tibbits	141	-6	5.4	3.8	23.0
10.1m	Thermo Storeys plc	58	-4	20.0	34.5	..
16.8m	Wolstenholme Rink	285	-5	21.7	8.3	8.7
82.1m	Yorkshire Chem	438	+5	18.0	4.1	11.5
108.3m	Yule Catto	159	-1	6.1	4.7	9.3
DRAPERY, STORES						
161.1m	Alexon	564	-6	19.3	3.4	13.1
62.1m	Amber Day	88½	-4	3.7	3.0	21.5
800.0m	Argos Plc	804	-6	32.0	3.9	19.0
176.1m	Ashley (Laura)	78	..	..	..	..
10.0m	Austin Reed	78	..	12.7	9.3	28.9
98.0m	Bastis (Jersey) 'A'	114	..	6.9	4.8	11.5
77.0m	Bentalls	285	-1	11.5	4.0	12.2
13.4m	Blacks Leis	96	+1	1.3	2.0	27.7
468.9m	Body Shop	278	..	1.5	0.5	54.2
——	Brown	..	..	1.5†	..	..
33.6m	Brown & Jackson	18	..	1.0	5.6	..
134.6m	Brown (N)	224½	..	7.1	3.2	16.2
561.7m	Burton	184	-1	5.3	2.5	9.9
18.0m	Carpets 'A'	104	..	5.3	4.8	7.4
10.1m	Casket Plc	132	..	..	..	..
24.0m	Church	348	..	18.7	5.3	9.9
783.5m	Coats Viyella	148	..	8.5	5.7	8.5
61.5m	Courts Furnishers	138	-4	6.5	4.7	14.8
31.1m	DAWS Simpson 'A'	575	..	13.7	2.7	14.8
20.4m	Dewhirst (J)	232	..	6.9	4.1	16.8
224.2m	Dixons Gp	188	-4	8.0	4.3	12.8
722.4m	Dunlop	488	-4	21.1	5.0	18.0
13.2m	EMA Gp	38	-4	1.5	3.9	8.4
9,168.0m	Elys (Wimbledon)	788	+13	21.3	2.8	12.2
46.2m	Estates Stores	41	-4	6.1	14.6	5.1
84.7m	Etam	116	-4	5.4	5.7	8.2
216.5m	Fine Art Dev	274	+2	12.1	4.4	12.3
3,477.8m	Floral Earth Thes	91	-2	3.5	3.8	7.1
5,600.0m	Forminster	1	..	..	..	..
28.2m	Gent SR	78	-4	4.0	5.7	8.8
11.1m	Goldsmiths Group	61	..	3.9	7.0	8.2
66.2m	GUS	515½	..	47.3b	9.0	11.1
2,982.8m	Do 'A'	512½	..	47.3	9.2	11.9
57.7m	Harrisons	184	+1	4.1	2.1	16.9
18.8m	Helens Plc	218	..	27	12.4	8.1
91.7m	Hogg Robinson plc	133	..	7.8	14.6	..
8,027.0m	Holte	115½	..	7.6	10.5	4.3
6,809.0m	House Of Lerose	116	-4	13.7	11.8	10.9
16.8m	Jacques Vert	116	..	5.5	6.6	8.4
2,258.4m	Kingfisher	497	+15	16.5	3.3	11.8
28.4m	Lewis Wise Gp	78	..	4.0	5.1	8.2
66.0m	Liberty	375	-4	8.0	2.1	14.2
7,111.0m	Marks& Spencer	388	-4	21.5	5.5	17.8
194.9m	Marsden (John)	78	..	4.0	5.1	13.2
33.0m	Moss Bros	135	..	5.0	3.7	15.7
91.2m	Next	98	-4	4.0	4.1	..
14.3m	Other (S)	65	..	4.0	6.2	12.4
13.6m	Do 'A'	65	..	4.0	6.2	12.4
176.5m	Pentos	168	..	7.5	4.5	8.7
72.0m	QS Hldgs	124	-4	5.5	4.4	20.3
508.0m	Reberts Group	174	-11	8.5	4.9	8.8
11.6m	S & U Stores	118	..	5.0	4.2	7.5
104.5m	Sdrol	202	-4	8.0	3.9	12.8
1,268.2m	Sears	88	..	3.5	3.9	12.5
670.0m	Sketchley	388	-4	14.5	3.7	13.1
479.8m	Storehouse	117	-4	6.7	5.7	26.9
127.0m	T & S Stores	98	..	5.7	5.8	14.5
10.2m	Tie Rack	38	..	..	..	20.1
81.1m	Time Products	208	..	8.5	4.1	7.8
84.2m	Vivat	98	..	..	..	..
81.2m	Wickes	138	-4	11.5	8.3	..
5,017.0m	Wilding Office	98	-5	24.5	25.0	..
ELECTRICALS						
35.8m	AB Elect	138	..	..	..	..
111.0m	ACT Group	118	-4	3.7	3.1	17.0
28.0m	Admiral	268	+10	16.0	5.2	12.5
20.2m	Alba	82	-4	5.5	7.1	32.9
4,647.0m	Alphasonic	4½	..	..	..	..
462.5m	Amstrad	88	+1	1.5	2.4	13.7
111.0m	ACT Group	118	-4	3.7	3.1	17.0
6,794.0m	Arlan	22	..	0.7	3.2	12.5
68.0m	Astec	27	..	0.7	2.6	25.5
272.8m	Auto Sec	288	..	12.5	4.3	8.7
18.8m	Bailey Hester	268	..	12.2	4.7	8.5
18.0m	Bambi & Rountree	39½	-½	..	..	..
1,361.0m	BICC	288	-4	20.7	5.7	12.4
46.8m	Black	238	..	9.5	4.2	11.2
194.9m	Bowthorpe	388	-4	17.9	3.5	13.9
22,418.0m	Br Telecom	365	..	16.5	4.5	13.2
3,550.0m	Bulgin (A) 'A'	102	..	6.5m	3.4	12.9
5,746.0m	Cable Wireless	536	+11	14.0	2.6	31.1
78.0m	Cambridge Elec	165	-11	14.5	7.5	11.4
96.7m	Chloride	98	..	..	..	27.5
21.9m	Computer People	158	..	6.5	5.4	8.4
78.0m	Cray Elect	78	-6	..	..	..
ELECTRICITY						
426.1m	East Midlands	800	+6	38.1	6.0	11.8
591.5m	Eastern Elect	588	+6	38.5	6.6	12.1
436.1m	London Elect	388	+15	28.5	6.0	13.5
270.0m	Manweb	388	-4	28.5	6.7	11.2
1,004.2m	Midlands Elec	388	+4	28.1	6.0	12.8
282.2m	Northern Elec	288	+4	20.5	6.7

Headline issue generates interest

By JONATHAN PRYNN

THE novelty value of the first new corporate issue since the power company flotations in March is expected to help Headline Book Publishing to a successful first day's trading when it comes to the market on Friday.

The issue is relatively small, with Headline likely to be capitalised at between £10 million and £12 million. But fund managers' preference for equities over cash, combined with the dearth of flotations, ensured healthy interest from institutions at presentations last week.

Headline, which specialises in mass market fiction and non-fiction publishing, was started up as a greenfield venture five years ago by a team headed by Tim Hely Hutchinson, aged 37, the managing director.

Sales have grown from nothing to £8.3 million last year, when the company doubled its pre-tax profit to £637,000. Trading is said to be satisfactory.

The 300-plus authors signed up by the company include Viv Richards, the cricketer, Shirley Temple Black, the child film star who became a diplomat, and politicians Lord Young and Lord Whitelaw. Dean R Koontz, the horror novelist, and Ellis Peters, who writes medieval whodunnits, are the big money earners.

Mr Hely Hutchinson says the company's success is based on its author-friendly philosophy and commercial approach to publishing.

THF battles with bookings and Gulf war

THE Trusthouse Forte hotels and catering group is expected to report a decline in full-year profits, reflecting significantly lower property profits and THF's heavy exposure to the British hotels sector.

THF, which is headed by Lord Forte, the chairman, and Rocco Forte, the chief executive, has suffered from depressed occupancy levels in its hotels as a result of the recession and the Gulf war and its repercussions. A relatively cautious statement is expected when the group reports on Thursday.

Derek Brock, at the Nomura Research Institute, expects pre-tax profits to fall to £202 million (£260 million). Market forecasts range from £196 million to £230 million.

Mr Brock is looking for earnings per share of 19.3p (25.9p) and a maintained final dividend, increasing the total dividend to 9.9p (9.7p). Property profits are forecast to dive to £12 million (£45 million). Public catering, which was doing well until Christmas, has probably slowed down, while contract catering should manage a resilient performance, apart from airline catering.



Cautious statement expected: Rocco Forte of Trusthouse Forte



Scottish acquisition pays dividends: Amber Day's Philip Green

TODAY

Nick Bubb, at Morgan Stanley, expects Amber Day, the fashion retail group headed by Philip Green, to report interim pre-tax profits approaching £5 million, against £1.31 million last time.

The figures will benefit from a full contribution from What Everyone Wants, the Scottish discount retailer that was acquired for £47 million last May.

Full-year pre-tax profits at Hunting, the defence, aviation and oil and technology group, are likely to decline from £48.4 million to £38 million, according to Barclays de Zoete Wedd. The defence side is expected to be seeing a decline as the contract for the JP233 aircraft attack system nears completion. The "runway buster" was carried by RAF Tornados in the Gulf.

Morgan Crucible, the industrial materials and electronics group, is forecast to lift final pre-tax profits by 8 per cent to £59 million, according to County NatWest. Market expectations range from £58 million to £68 million.

Interims: Amber Day Holdings, Lyles (S).

Finals: Asda Property Holdings, Copymore, Expamra Holdings, Finlay Packaging, Headlam Group, Hunting, Morgan Crucible, Russell (Alexander), Turriff Corporation, Venturi Investment Trust.

TOMORROW

Interims: Consolidated Murchison (quarterly), Elsburg Gold Mining (quarterly), Joel (HJ) Gold Mining (quarterly), Randfontein Estates Gold Mining (quarterly), River & Mercantile Extra Income Trust, Western Areas Gold Mining (quarterly), Witwatersand Nigel (quarterly).

Finals: Dunlop House Group, EIS Group, El Oro Mining & Exploration, Exploration Company, Hartons Group, LIT Holdings, Martin (Albert) Holdings, Newarthill.

Economic statistics: Producer price index numbers (March — provisional).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Prestwick Holdings, Scottish American Investment Co..

Finals: Bentalls, Denstron International, English National Investment Company, Golden Vale, Great Southern Group, Hafnia Holding AS, Higgs and Hill, Le Creuset, Storm Group.

Economic statistics: Public sector borrowing requirement (March).

THURSDAY

Blue Circle, Britain's biggest cement producer, which is chaired by Sir Peter Walters, is expected to report a sharp fall in final pre-tax profits from £231.8 million to £182 million, according to UBS Phillips & Drew. Market forecasts range from £180 million to £193 million.

Trading will confirm a substantial decline in British cement profits as commercial and industrial demand continues to be depressed.

Tim Potter, at Smith New Court, expects Albert Fisher, the fast-growing distributor of fresh food, to announce half-year pre-tax profits of £44 million, against £30.5 million last time, with earnings per share ahead 9 per cent to 5p. Market forecasts range from £43 million to £45 million.

The advance is due largely to first-time contributions from acquisitions, a healthy interest gain from the substantial cash pile and a good performance from Europe, which has seen strong organic growth.

British trading is thought to have been tough going in the first half, with a flat food industry and increased competition, although a recovery is expected in the second half.

Mark Hudson, at BZW, expects William Low, the Dundee supermarkets group headed by James Millar, to show interim pre-tax profits of £11.5 million, against £10.5 million last time. Market forecasts range from £10.5 million to £11.6 million. Sir Ron Brierley's IEP Securities sold its 20 per cent holding this year, the stake being placed with several institutions.

Interims: Barrett (Henry) Group, Fisher (Albert) Group, Low (WM) & Co.

Finals: ATA Selection, Barlows, Blue Circle Industries, East Rand Gold and Uranium, Elcos, Free State Consolidated Gold Mines, Govett Oriental Investment Trust, Havelock Europa, LEP Group, Orange Free State Investments, Perambe, River & Mercantile Geared Capital and Income Trust 1999, Saga Group, Stam Selective Growth Trust, Trusthouse Forte, Whatman, Wolcom Gold Holdings.

Economic statistics: Index of output of the production industries (February), labour market statistics, average earnings indices (February — provisional), provisional figures of vehicles production (March), institutional investment (fourth quarter).

FRIDAY

The net asset value at Hammerson Property, the property development and investment group headed by Sydney Mason, is expected to show a sizeable decline, reflecting depressed property markets and adverse currency movements. The NAV is predicted to fall to £8.50 (£10.68) a share, according to Robert Fowlds, at Kleinwort Benson.

Mr Fowlds expects final pre-tax profits to fall to £63 million (£75.3 million), although this is at the lower end of market forecasts, which range from £63 million to £75 million.

Interims: Anglo American Corporation of South Africa (quarterly), British Empire Securities and General Trust.

Finals: Berry Starquest, CSC Investment Trust, Hammerson Property Investment and Development Corporation, Hawtal Whiting Holdings, Rosket.

Economic statistics: London and Scottish banks monthly statement (March), provisional estimates of monetary aggregates (March).

PHILIP PANGALOS

National Westminster Bank
Business Accounts
Interest Rates

National Westminster Bank announces the following interest rates, effective from 15 April 1991:

Solicitors Reserve Account

Gross Interest per annum#	Balance	Gross Compounded Annual Rate◇
10.50%	Instant Access – No minimum deposit/ withdrawal £250,000 and above	10.92%
10.50%	£100,000 – £249,999	10.92%
10.125%	£25,000 – £99,999	10.52%
9.75%	£2,000 – £24,999	10.11%
6.875%	£500 – £1,999	7.05%

Where appropriate, Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from interest credited or paid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers). Subject to the required registration form, interest will be paid gross.
◇Gross Compounded Annual Rate is the true annual return on your savings if the interest payments are retained in the account.

National Westminster Bank plc
41 Lothbury London EC2P 2BP

BCC
Base Rate

BCC announces that from 15 April 1991 its base rate is changed from 12.5% to 12% p.a.

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COMPANY NEWS

Post-boom virus hits computer services

MICROVITEC'S undignified scramble for control of Logitek is symptomatic of the turmoil that exists in the computer services sub-sector. Neither company has a recent financial record to be proud of and both sets of shareholders fear their prospects will not be enhanced by the tussle.

Investors in computer service companies have never had an easy ride but prospects have rarely looked as glum as they do now. On a global scale, IBM, forced to make many job cuts because of falling profits, has highlighted problems that are endemic within the industry.

Among smaller companies, these problems are compounded by excessive borrowings, accumulated in the Eighties during the rush for growth, and overdependence on single sectors such as financial services. Further problems have been caused by the rising number of failed businesses that employed only a handful of people and relied heavily on personal computers to keep costs down.

Microvitec incurred losses of £2.42 million last year, against profits of £1.28 million in 1989, while, in its most recent half-year, Logitek reported profits down from £1.31 million to £145,000.

Horror stories abound. Ferrari Holdings, the computer distributor, collapsed last month, leaving Singer & Friedlander, the merchant bank that held 35 per cent of its shares, with losses of almost £14 million.

SD-Scicon suffered a pre-tax deficit of £19.8 million last year after exceptional charges of £24.8 million in respect of losses it will incur on fixed-price contracts awarded by the defence ministry. Profits at Misys, a computer systems supplier, fell 70 per cent to £1.5 million before tax in the six months to last November.

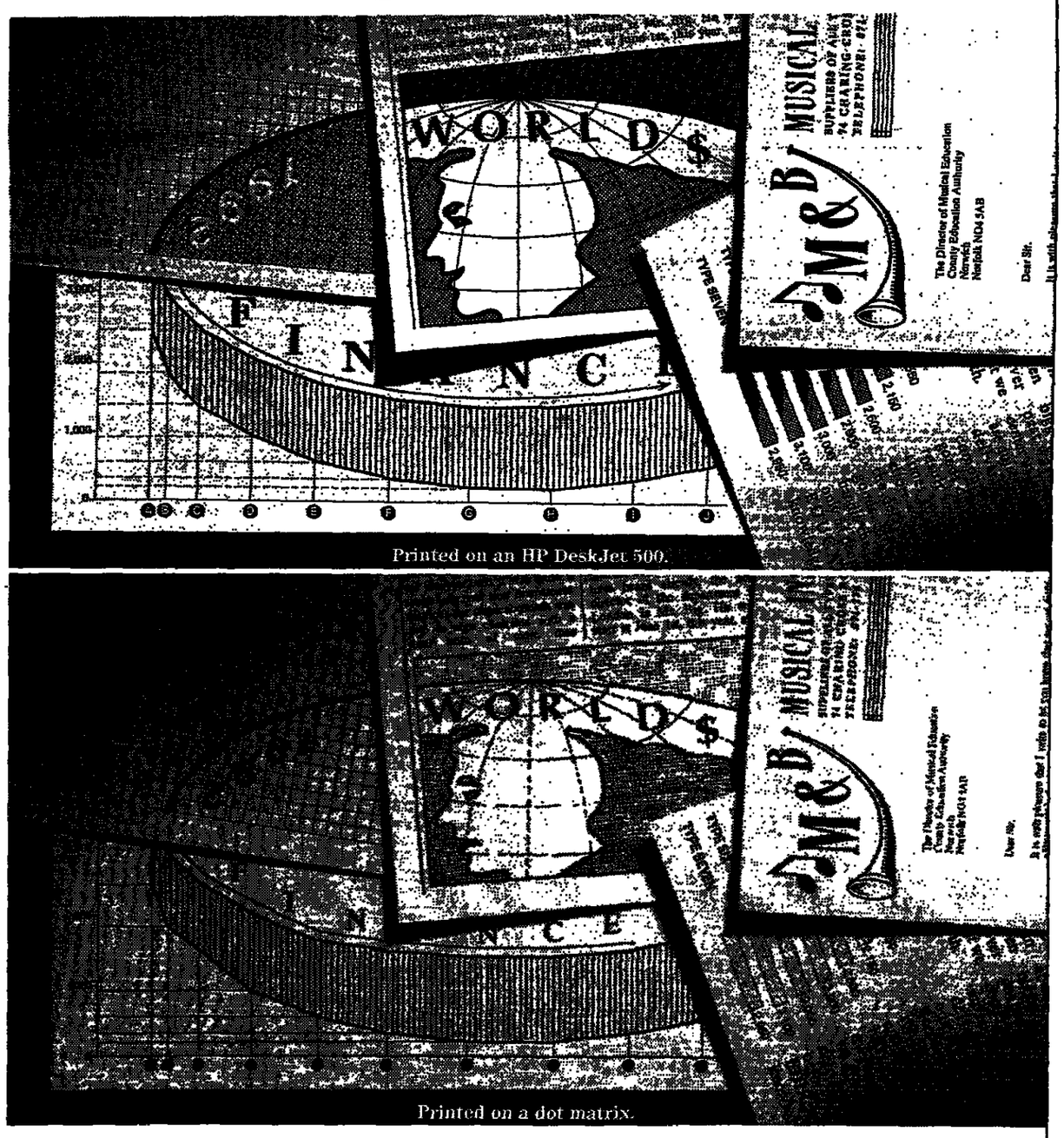
Many stocks in the sector have previously benefited from high growth, but are now casualties of fierce competition and volatile markets.

On a brighter note, there are several companies where prospects appear better. Mark Lambert, of County NatWest WoodMac, said: "There is a lot of recovery potential in a lot of businesses. There are a number of quality businesses, with quality products and quality management."

ACT, the cash-rich computer services house, took a 13.1 per cent stake in Quotient, the financial software specialist. ACT paid £1.48 million for a 12.2 per cent stake held by MMT, the computer services group. ACT is still sitting on a large cash pile after last year's sale of its Apricot computer hardware division to Mitsubishi Electric of Japan for £39 million.

MARTIN BARROW

Better quality output at a dot matrix price.

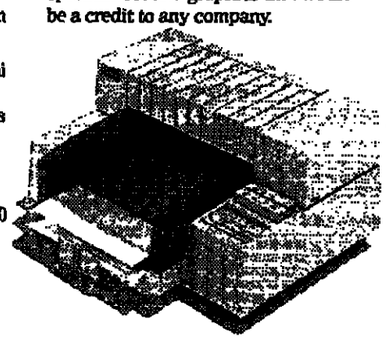


What you see is what you get, to coin a phrase. And you can see just how much better the output of the Hewlett-Packard DeskJet 500 is when you compare it to a dot matrix.

The HP DeskJet 500 produces 300 dpi laser quality output, giving the impression of type set quality. What's more it comes with a Windows 3.0 driver giving you scalable fonts for even more exciting output.

One other benefit of the HP DeskJet 500 isn't immediately obvious, however. It's much quieter than dot matrix printing so you can work at your desk without being disturbed.

The end result is sharp, professional-looking letters, documents, spreadsheet and graphics that would be a credit to any company.



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So to find just how good an investment the HP DeskJet 500 really is, call us on (0344) 369369.

*On return to HP.
Windows 3.0 is a product of Microsoft Corporation.

HEWLETT PACKARD

THE POSSIBILITY MADE REALITY.

Polytechnic passes first exam

Does more mean better or worse? In the case of Bournemouth, the inspectors had a chance to decide. John O'Leary reports

Britain's newest polytechnic faced its first big test within four months of having its status upgraded. Hardly had the first students arrived on campus than the inspectors moved in and threatened to spoil the party.

The timing may have been a coincidence. Bournemouth and Humberside were the first polytechnics to be designated for 20 years. Bournemouth provided an ideal test case for judging the effect on standards of rapid expansion, one of the key issues in higher education today.

National planners had long recognised the potential of Bournemouth, a town set in an area of high economic and population growth. There is no university in Dorset, or neighbouring Wiltshire and Somerset. Bournemouth polytechnic grew out of the Dorset institute of higher education, but not without birth pains. The institute was initially too small and its range of courses too narrow to qualify for promotion. In the second half of the Eighties the institute doubled its student population in five years. Almost 2,000 places have been added in the past three years, allowing the new polytechnic to open with 4,600 students, a third more than the funding council was prepared to pay for.



Bernard MacManus

At the same time, a range of often novel courses has been added, particularly at postgraduate level. Degrees in heritage conservation, video production, clinical nursing, midwifery, health and community studies, production design and electronic systems design have all been launched.

The polytechnic was a prime example of the overstretching that critics have claimed to detect in many polytechnics and colleges. There was evidence of funds that were already meagre having to cater for more students, and new courses being introduced on the cheap in inadequate surroundings.

However, the inspectors produced a glowing report on Bournemouth. "At this early stage of the polytechnic's development the inspection provided evidence that it is an effective institution, which has managed successfully the changes brought about by increased student numbers.

"It has established a range of innovative undergraduate and postgraduate courses, which are well planned and resourced. Overall, the provision is generally good with few shortcomings."

Coming hard on the heels of a judgment by the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council (PCFC) that only one area of Bournemouth's work, tourism, was outstanding, the inspectors' verdict was a relief.

Bernard MacManus, the director, says he expects more departments to be rated as outstanding next year and demand for places has never been stronger. However, a poor report now could have been disastrous, given the polytechnic's plans for growth. By the autumn, there should be 6,000 students and another site through the addition of the Anglo-European College of Chiropractic. Although the PCFC has given 23 per cent more funded places, that will mean taking even more students for whom the polytechnic receives only fee income. Dr MacManus has no doubt that the targets can be achieved without loss of quality. Bournemouth has increased staffing ratios and tried to make the best use of space. The polytechnic spent almost £1 million from its revenues last year to adapt buildings to provide new lecture theatres, build laboratories and extend the library. A computerised allocation system ensures that intensive use is made of what is now available.

Although there are now 18 students to every member of staff, compared with an average of 11.5 in the universities in 1988-9, care has been taken to limit the size of seminar and tutorial groups. Lectures may be getting larger by the year, but seminars have been kept to a maximum of 15 students.

A long-standing commitment to limit lecturers' teaching time to 14.5 hours a week to allow for research and consultancy has also been maintained.

The polytechnic has residential accommodation for only 250 students in spite of the opening of a new student village, but the hotels and guest houses of the area are more than happy to make up any shortfall.

PETER TRIEVNOR



Test case: Bournemouth polytechnic got a glowing report for academic standards from inspectors

Attracting enough applicants is proving to be no problem. Most courses were already oversubscribed and, even though the polytechnic is still listed under its previous title on national admissions forms, applications are up by 50 per cent.

The staff expect to see a further increase when the polytechnic title is included next year.

The new status has helped in the institution's relations with business and industry. Companies such as BP and Commercial Union sponsor academic chairs, and industrialists have always been closely involved in the design of courses. About 14 per cent of income was derived from non-state sources before polytechnic status, but now external relations are easier both at home and abroad.

Europe looms large in planning. Bournemouth is well known abroad for its language schools and the polytechnic tourism courses were rated the best in Europe in a poll of academics published last year by the French newspaper *Libération*. There are links with 16 continental universities and more are on the way, particularly at postgraduate level. Dr MacManus hopes to extend the range of associate centres through which the polytechnic offers courses in other parts of the south. They exist already in Salisbury, Yeovil and on the Isle of Wight.

As neither Somerset nor Wiltshire has a university or a polytechnic of its own, there is plenty of scope for more.

Not every higher education institution is in a position to emulate Bournemouth's performance but the inspectors' favourable report will make it more difficult for the critics of mass higher education to claim that more means worse.

Business bonding

EXECUTIVES in British business and industry should follow the lead of their American counterparts and involve themselves in schools, the Associated Examining Board says today in its magazine, *Business Matters*.

The magazine, which is intended to provide a link between education and industry, reports on attempts by companies in the United States to help those considered at risk of failing to graduate because of personal difficulties. Both Disney World, in Florida, and Elvis Presley's former home, Gracelands, near Memphis, Tennessee, host programmes for such students. The schemes are part of a national effort to reduce illiteracy and raise educational standards.

George Turnbull, the magazine's editor and the board's spokesman, says: "The interest expressed by senior executives is astounding. Businesses are cooperating to achieve the goals set, for the sake of America. Would senior staff in UK companies regularly give of their time in this way?"

Euro-learning

EDUCATION ministers from Germany and Spain are attending a conference in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, today on learning and working in Europe. They will share a platform with Lord Plumb, a former president of the European Commission, and students from every European Community country. More than 1,000 educationists, industrialists and students are expected at the week-long conference, which started on Saturday. Penny Krucker, Gloucestershire's European development officer, says the conference will increase awareness and understanding of the opportunities for young people.

The Kurds' story

THE Refugee Council has produced a free information pack on the Kurds, examining their history and prospects, with teachers in mind. The pack is available from Jill Rutter, the council's education officer, at 3 Bondway, London SW8 1SJ (071-582 6922).

Past lessons

ABOUT 200 pupils, aged between eight and 12, from schools in Newcastle upon Tyne will next week investigate the mysterious death of a woman pauper who died in a police cell in 1838. Polytechnic students will play the characters in the case and the children will write their own versions of the story for a project organised jointly by the education authority and the polytechnic's museum of science and engineering. The exercise is intended to illustrate the importance of evaluating historical sources.

Research boost

TWO computers have been given to researchers from Strathclyde and Glasgow universities for research into neurospinal diseases. A lack of computer equipment had hampered work at the Institute of Neurological Sciences, in Glasgow, until the Scottish Equitable insurance company contacted the manufacturer Hewlett Packard to find a home for two mini-computers no longer in use.

Privileged Russians



TEN Russian teenagers and two of their teachers will have a taste of privilege in the Scottish Highlands at the end of this month when they spend two weeks at Gordonstoun School. They are from School 207 in Leningrad and, although they will be given accommodation in the school medical centre, they will be attached to houses and as far as possible be integrated into school life.

Milk loophole

UNDER-FIVES in Bromley, southeast London, are to get free school milk thanks to a legal loophole. Although the Social Security Act made free school milk illegal in 1986, Bromley has been one of many authorities to continue to provide milk for pupils aged under seven, paid for partly by parents and partly by European Community subsidies. Borough education officials say that new welfare regulations oblige the health department to top up the European Community money.

JOHN O'LEARY

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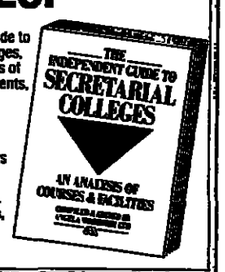
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The Division is a significant provider of high quality education and training programmes at both FE and HE levels. Currently the Division enrols approximately two thousand students each year into courses for which there is local, regional and national demand. There is, however, excellent growth potential.

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The Division seeks an enthusiastic teacher of accounts to join its successful Professional Studies Section. Initially involved with preliminary level programmes such as AAT, BTEC National, 'A' Level and GCSE, the successful applicant will possess broad-based practical accounting experience.

Opportunities for short course work within the local business community also exists and such work will be encouraged.

Whilst an appropriate degree or professional qualification is desirable, the main concern is to appoint an effective teacher of accounts who has the ability to assist with the further development of the accounting provision within the Division.

LECTURER OR SENIOR LECTURER IN OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT

The Division seeks an enthusiastic teacher of Operations management to join its successful Management Studies Section. Teaching will be on a broad range of management and professional education programmes such as DMS and IIM and also on various BTEC Business Programmes.

Opportunities for short course work within the local business community also exist, and will be encouraged.

The successful applicant will possess a related degree and broad-based operations management experience in industry or commerce. The ability to offer quantitative and statistical techniques and marketing is also desirable, as is an appropriate professional qualification. We seek an effective teacher who can communicate effectively with students of all ages, experience and abilities.

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Personnel
Accommodation Operations

Industrial experience and appropriate qualifications are essential. Teaching experience would be preferable.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS DIVISION

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Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons to commence duties on 1 September 1991. The successful candidate is expected to have strong industrial experience in Hairdressing and Beauty Therapy and be capable of teaching all aspects, including exercise and related anatomy. A combination of creative flair and technical "know how" and the ability to impart this to students studying Beauty Therapy, Hairdressing, Fashion and Leisure courses is expected.

The person appointed will need talent, enthusiasm and commitment. Teaching experience would be useful and a teaching qualification an added advantage.

Salary Scales: Lecturer Grade - £10,089 to £18,285
Senior Lecturer Grade - £18,285 to £20,808

Application forms and further particulars available from: Personnel Administration, Doncaster College, Waterdale, Doncaster, DN1 3EX.
Tel: (0302) 322122, ext 201 or 203.

Closing date for applications - 26 April 1991.

We are an equal opportunity employer and welcome applications irrespective of race, gender or disabilities.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

University Offices

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Applications are invited for this new post in the Research Support and Industrial Liaison Office. Working closely with the Director and under her direction the Administrative Officer will be responsible for a range of duties including writing papers and reports, meetings with representatives of industry and others, maintaining contact with local organisations and science parks. This is a challenging post and requires energy, enthusiasm and a flair for organisation.

Applications, with the names and addresses of two referees, should be submitted to Mr. J.D. Brown, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD by 13 May. There are no application forms, but further particulars may be obtained from Oxford 270128.

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Applications, together with a full curriculum vitae and the names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees should be sent to arrive no later than the 8th May, to:

The Clerk to the Governors, Ingrams Close, Felsted School, Felsted, Dunmow, Essex CM6 3JG from whom further details may be obtained.

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For further details please contact: The Headmaster, Giggleswick School, Settle, North Yorkshire, BD24 0DE. Tel: 0729 823545.

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Details from: The Principal's Secretary, Trinity College, Stoke Hill, Bristol BS9 1JP. Closing date for applications: Wednesday May 8th 1991.

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Further particulars from the Warden's Secretary (BPF), Nuffield College, Oxford OX1 1NF.

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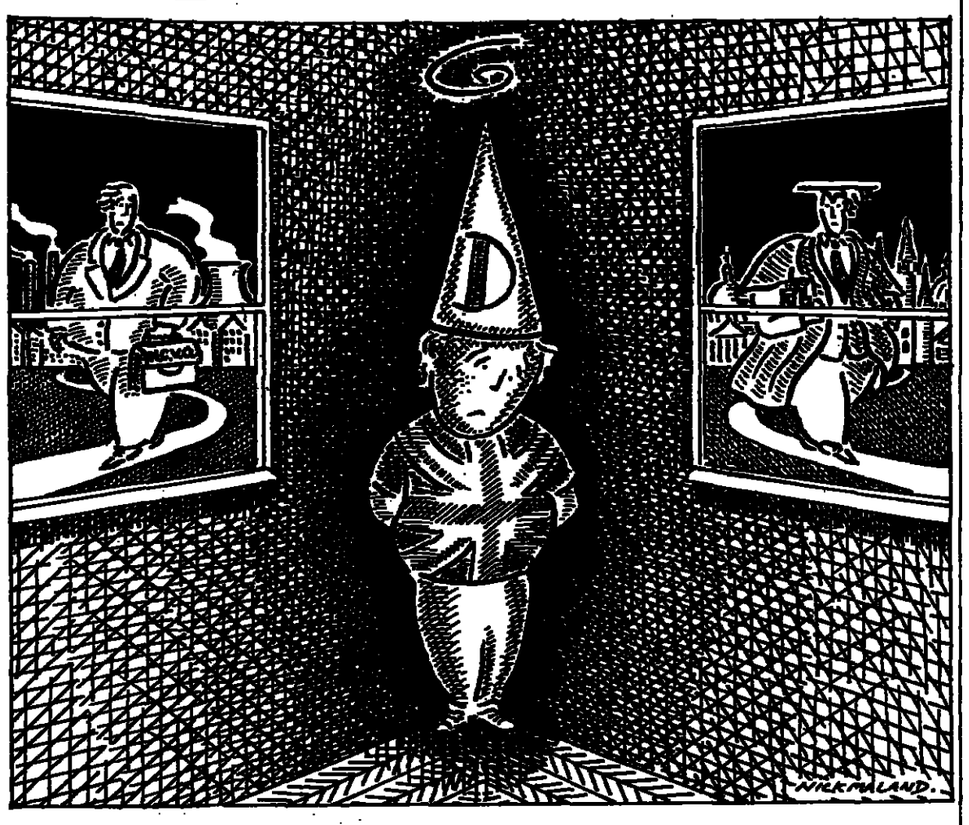
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Let's dump the dunce cap

Kenneth Clarke's plans for reform are a perfect opportunity to help to create a world-class workforce, Stuart Maclure argues



The schools are still coming to terms with Kenneth Baker's 1988 Education Reform Act, and now, two ministers later, Kenneth Clarke has announced far-reaching changes for the general and vocational education of students aged 16 to 18 and for the colleges.

Further education and sixth-form colleges are to be taken away from local authorities and financed directly by the education department. A range of vocational qualifications are to be introduced into the schools and colleges, under the aegis of the National Council for Vocational Qualifications (NCVQ), which will run in parallel with academic examinations such as the GCSE and A-levels.

At one level, these moves are an opportunist response to the panic review of local authority finance, caused by the need to find an alternative to the community charge. The moves are more than this, however. Mr Clarke wants a big drive in further education and believes he needs to be able to target the money for this in ways that are impossible if the local authorities are in charge.

The colleges have been clamouring for the autonomy, which, in another context, the government has given to grant-maintained schools. However, some of the money for colleges will be controlled in future by the training and enterprise councils (TECs), and an increasing proportion is expected to come from selling training and specialised services to whoever will buy them.

Coventry technical college is a notable example of a college that has pursued an aggressive policy of marketing what it can offer. In 1989, its total budget amounted to £9,650,000, of which more than £2 million was raised by providing services charged out at full cost. If this trend continues, will the market take over more and more of the planning decisions?

If the government is serious, it should adopt the targets and the aims set out in the CBI Task Group's report, *Towards a Skills Revolution*. This laid down that nobody under the age of 19 should be employed in a job that does not provide "structured education and training leading to recognised qualifications".

Britain has a long way to go to develop the quality education and training needed to produce a world-class workforce.

The CBI critique is of a country that is both under-educated and under-trained. Not only are the industrial training arrangements inadequate, as far too many entrants receive little or no training, but there is also the startling contrast between the 35 to 36 per cent of 17-year-old Britons in full-time education and the 70 to 80 per *cent figure that is common elsewhere* in Western Europe.

If everybody is to remain in education or training full-time or part-time until the age of 18, there is an obvious need to replan the years 14 to 18, which would imply changes also for the national curriculum. For some, education will be full-time on traditional lines, leading to regular academic and vocational examinations. For others, education will be a mixture of full-time and part-time, leading to National Vocational Qualifications (NVQs).

A basic *requirement, if the education* of the 14 to 18 age group is to expand on these lines, is the construction of a robust framework that can hold together this range of courses and qualifications. By common consent, what we now have is a mess. The system has to be clarified and simplified. There is no point in putting more emphasis on guidance and counselling for pupils aged 14 and 15 unless the jungle is cleared and young people and their parents can be offered an intelligible set of choices.

Much of the apparatus is already in place. The National Council for Vocational Qualifications, still in its infancy, is meant to be sorting out the tangle of vocational qualifications. The involvement of the council in building a clearly defined and simple structure for education for those aged 14 to 18 is essential.

NCVQ ideology, however, is more appropriate to the employers' demands for immediately marketable skills than the education that should be provided for this age group.

What now has to happen, through a process of negotiation and compromise, is to devise qualifications and assessment methods that best encourage the provision of goc. educational experience for you people, while at the same time equipping them with NVQs at levels II and III.

This will be achieved through bodies such as the Business and Technician Education Council (BTEC) and the City and Guilds of London Institute. There will have to be a lot of horse-trading and tough talking, but the aim should be clear. A disaster would follow if the vocational education route was wholly cut off from the academic, or vice versa.

There must be the opportunity for progression from one level to another, enabling, for example, BTEC students to move into higher and professional education and A-level and AS-level students to be fitted into the NVQ structure.

The debate must not become strung up on semantics. The failure to integrate "academic" and "vocational" education is the classic weakness at the heart of English education.

A great deal will depend on when and how the government decides to grapple with A-levels, which will sooner or later have to be reformed. The ultimate aim must be to integrate academic and general education.

● *Stuart Maclure was editor of* The Times Educational Supplement *from 1969 to 1989. His book,* Missing Links — The Challenge to Further Education, *is published by the Policy Studies Institute on Thursday at £6.95.*

When stress can be turned into success

Parents in Japan are partners with teachers in the pupils' education, but the pressures can take their toll

JAPANESE children, like their British counterparts, get a tour of their new school before they start, but then teachers pay a return visit to the children's homes. This visit, conducted annually, is part of the process which makes Japanese parents integral to the operation of the education system.

Yoichi Kimura carries a message-book between school and home daily. His teacher uses it to report what the eight-year-old has been learning, and his mother comments on the things her son has found interesting at home. This is just one way of the ways in which Japanese parents are involved in their children's education.

With so much to learn in Japan's exacting curriculum, teachers are happy to enlist parents' help. When pupils are learning the 2,000 or so "kanji" ideograms — symbols of the Japanese alphabet — that constitute basic literacy, sheets of the characters are sent home.

Parents can also sit in on classes and are encouraged to get involved in school activities, such as open days, the organisation of school sports, and science fairs.

The parent-teacher association advises parents on how much homework their children should be doing. Homework is seen as crucial and even infants are given regular home assignments. Kindergartens provide libraries from which mothers can borrow books to read to their children at home.

As well as instilling good study habits, homework allows parents to be joint educators. An a junior school pupil, such as Yoichi, would have about an hour's homework daily.

Detailed school rules include instructions on when to study, when to sleep and even on what routes to take to school. Older pupils are barred from less desirable areas of town and high school teachers patrol after school to ensure rules are followed.

Teachers accept joint responsibility with parents for the safety and moral well-being of their pupils. If a student has been found guilty of a traffic offence or other misdemeanour, the teacher, as well as the parent, is informed by the police. The responsibility for children's behaviour is shared.

A multi-million-pound business has grown up producing books, games, and television programmes, as private enterprise cashed in on the keenness of Japanese parents to get involved in education.

There is also a private tuition industry involving hundreds of thousands of home-based tutor groups and supplementary lessons a private crammer school when preparing for important examinations. Some parents, however, have been accused of pushing their children too far, sending them to crammers every night and making them spend all their free time studying.

An ambitious mother whose only aim is to see her children enter a top high school and university, can be harmful. Children who have been constantly pressured by their parents often become robot-like figures who do little except study.

Every year tens of thousands of teenagers crack under the combined pressures. Some youngsters develop stress-related illnesses, others run away from home, and a *few resort to suicide and even* murder. One mother was clubbed to death by her son, who had been put under extreme academic pressure.

JOHN GREENLEES



Stressed for success: even infants do homework

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Applications are invited from candidates with a higher degree in pharmacology, biochemistry or a related discipline for a Lectureship in Pharmacology. In addition to teaching, the successful applicant will be expected to conduct independent research in the field of signal transduction within the Biochemical Pharmacology Research Group in the Department of Physiology and Pharmacology. Established expertise in biochemical/molecular pharmacology techniques is essential. Salary: in range £12,086 - £22,311 per annum

For application and further particulars (Ref 50/91) contact Personnel Office, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow G1 1XQ.

Applications closing date: 17th May 1991.

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Application forms and further particulars are available from the Staffing Office, London School of Economics, *Houghton Street,* London WC2A 2AE.

Closing date for applications: 3 May 1991

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Applications (ten copies) giving full details of age, qualifications and experience together with the names and addresses of three referees should be sent by 31st May 1991 to Mr. H.T. Musselwhite, Secretary, King's College School of Medicine and Dentistry, Bessemer Road, London SE5 9PJ from whom further particulars may be obtained.

Informal enquiries may be made to Professor A.M. McGregor, Head of the Department (Tel: 071-326 3013 direct line) or Dr. J. Costello, Clinical Director of Acute Services of Camberwell Health Authority (Tel: 071-326 3165 direct line).

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Further details of the post are available from Tom Webster, Director of Personnel Services, Sheffield City Polytechnic, Pond Street, Sheffield S1 1WB or Sheffield (0742) 533946.

Confidential enquiries may be made by contact with the Principal, John Stoddart, on (0742) 532050 to whom full personal and career details should be submitted by 3rd May 1991.

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UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

RUPERT MURDOCH PROFESSORSHIP OF LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

The electors intend to proceed to an election to the newly-established Rupert Murdoch Professorship of Language and Communication with effect from as early a date as may be arranged. The stipend of the professor is at present £31,088 per annum.

Applications (eight copies, or one from overseas candidates), naming three referees, should be received not later than 3 June 1991 by the Registrar, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford OX1 2JD, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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Applications are invited from candidates with research interests in any branch of inorganic chemistry for a Lectureship available from 1 October 1991. Applicants will be expected to have a doctorate and some postdoctoral experience.

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Applications (including curriculum vitae, list of publications, brief description of future research plans and names of three referees) should be sent by 31 May 1991 to Dr. D.M.L. Goodgame, Department of Chemistry, Imperial College, London SW7 2AY. (Tel: 071-589 5111 ext. 4549; FAX 071-589 3869) from whom further details can be obtained.

Continued on next page

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Informal enquiries for both posts are welcome and should be made to John Benyon, Director, Centre for the Study of Public Order, University of Leicester, 6 Salisbury Road, Leicester, LE1 7QR, telephone (0533) 522458; FAX (0533) 523944.

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Further particulars and application forms from the Staffing Office (Academic Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester LE1 7RH, telephone (0533) 522439. The University FAX number is (0533) 522200.
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Rain helps dampen the Australians' Test preparations

From JOHN WOODCOCK IN BRIDGETOWN

MORE heavy, unseasonal rain further set back the sugar cane harvest and severely restricted play on the second day of the match between the Australians and a West Indian Board XI here yesterday. In the eight overs that were bowled before tea, the Board XI took their first innings to 345 for eight.

This, in fact, represented something of an Australian recovery from the time, on Saturday afternoon, when the West Indians stormed past 250 with only two wickets down and Simmons and Lara both playing some fiercely handsome strokes. The 22 fours which Simmons struck in his 122 suggested that he is keen to make up for the cricket he missed after being very nearly killed by David Lawrence batting for the West Indians against Gloucestershire at Bristol in 1988.

Alderman had bowled fairly well and Hughes had held a remarkable one-handed catch, high to his right at mid-off, but that was all the Australians had had to be pleased about. There was just enough in the pitch, in the way of lift rather than pace, for them to have had a much more profitable first morning.

But Reid had trouble with his line and the run-ups were damp from the rain, and Peter Taylor came across an umpire who refused to stand up to the stumps when asked to do so. The reason Dalton Holder gave for this was one for the book of cricketing idiosyncrasies: he was afraid of a hard, straight drive breaking the bowler's wicket and either the ball or a bail hitting him in the face.

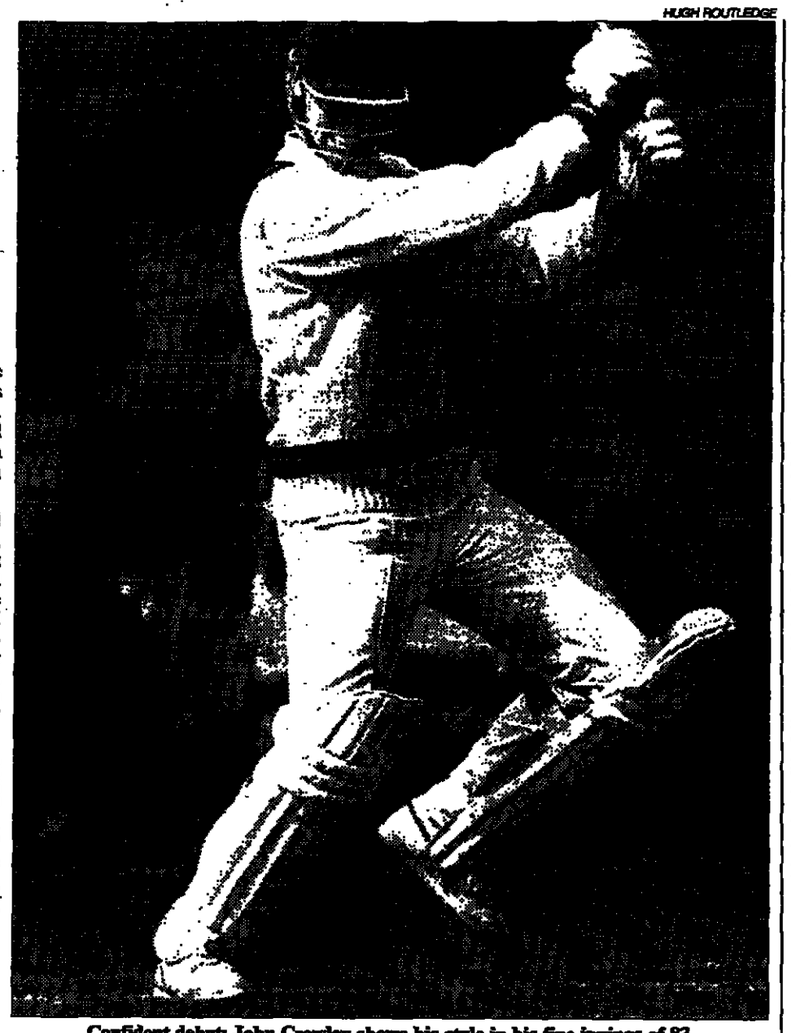
Worried again about Reid, whose figures in the last week have been 41-2-168-2, the Australians are toying with the idea of playing Alderman in the fourth Test match, starting on Friday. Although they need to win both the remaining Tests to take the series, their present intention is to stay with the Trinidad composition of seven batsmen and only three specialist bowlers, and Stephen Waugh's three wickets on Saturday evening will have done nothing to dissuade them.

Resuming yesterday at 314 for six, 85 minutes late, the Board XI soon lost Williams and Anthony to the new ball. By lunch, though, Hughes had undone that by giving a convincing imitation of an incorrigible oaf.

The umpires having lost all respect, he just stood there, ball after ball, haranguing Cummins, whom he thought he had had caught at the wicket. The Australians had given the impression on Saturday that they would sooner be watching the Masters golf, and now a lunchtime storm made it highly likely that they soon would be.

WEST INDIES BOARD XI: First Innings
P V Simmons c Boon b S R Waugh 122
C B Lambert c Hughes b Alderman 72
*C A Best c Veletta b Hughes 30
B C Lara c Marsh b S R Waugh 59
K L T Arthurton c Veletta b S R Waugh 11
J C Adams run out 4
H A G Anthony c P L Taylor b Hughes ... 9
†D Williams b Reid 11
A C Cummins not out 6
E A Moseley not out 14
Extras (nb 9) 9
Total (8 wkts) 345
I B A Allen to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-125, 2-184, 3-285, 4-287, 5-303, 6-303, 7-320, 8-324.
BOWLING: Reid 19-3-88-1; Alderman 18-8-45-1; S R Waugh 21-4-76-3; Hughes 16-0-70-2; P L Taylor 20-6-43-0, M E Waugh 4-0-22-0.
AUSTRALIANS: *G R Marsh, M A Taylor, D C Boon, D M Jones, M E Waugh, S R Waugh, †M R J Veletta, P L Taylor, M G Hughes, T M Alderman, B A Reid.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Confident debut: John Crawley shows his style in his fine innings of 83

Newcomer Pfaff cheers Oxford

THE PARKS (first day of three; Oxford University won the toss): Hampshire, with all first-innings wickets in hand, are 127 runs behind Oxford University

DAVID Pfaff, from South Africa, marked his debut by scoring an unbeaten 48 as Oxford University struggled to 147 against tight Hampshire bowling on Saturday. Mark Russell and another South African, Rob MacDonald, gave Pfaff good support as Oxford rallied from 63 for five.

When the county side replied, Paul Terry pulled a hamstring going for quick single off the tenth ball of the innings and is expected to be out of action for several weeks.

Hampshire had scored 20 without loss when bad light ended play 25 minutes early.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings
R E Morris lbw b James 5
R Montgomerie b Middleton b James 10
C Gupta lbw b Maru 15
G Lovell c Terry b Ayling 18
*G J Turner c Aymes b Ayling 9
D Pfaff not out 48
M Russell c Aymes b Maru 13
†D Sandiford c Nicholas b Maru 0
H Davies c Aymes b Connor 0
R MacDonald c C Smith b Maru 20
B Wood b Ayling 0
Extras (lb 4, nb 5) 9
Total 147
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-21, 3-39, 4-58, 5-63, 6-105, 7-107, 8-114, 9-147.
BOWLING: Javed 11-1-27-0; Baldesar 12-7-18-0; James 13-5-25-2; Connor 15-4-40-1; Maru 18-8-17-4; Ayling 12.2-5-16-3.

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings
C L Smith not out 14
V P Terry retired hurt 4
T C Middleton not out 2
Total (for no wkt) 20
*M C J Nicholas, J R Ayling, K D James, †A N Aymes, R J Maru, P J Baldesar, Aaqib Javed and C A Connor to bat.
Umpires: J H Hampshire and R C Tolchard.

Crawley commands the day

By RICHARD STREETON

FENNER'S (second day of three; Lancashire won toss): Lancashire have a first-innings lead of 192 runs over Cambridge University

AN admirable 83 by John Crawley against his own county provided the main substance to the Cambridge University innings yesterday after Lancashire declared at their overnight score. Crawley was fourth out at 189 and after this the university batting fell away and they were all out just before the close.

Crawley, the Young England captain, who is aged 19, batted with more assurance than anyone else until he became bogged down with an unusual achievement in his sights. Not since David Sheppard in 1950 against Sussex has a freshman on his debut made a hundred against his own county.

Only one blemish marred Crawley's innings. He was 16 and the total 38 when he played loosely against Watkinson and was dropped by Allott at first slip. Allott went close later with a leg-before appeal but otherwise Crawley for a long time made his strokes with time to spare and was especially strong on the legside.

In late afternoon, though, when Crawley was 70, he lost momentum and spent 85 minutes over his final 13 runs. Shortly after tea he played back to a ball from Watkinson that kept low and edged it into his stumps. He batted for 15 minutes over four hours, faced 215 balls and hit eight fours. Crawley's previous best score was 76 not out for Lancashire against the Zimbabweans last year.

Lancashire, who are just back from Western Australia, bowled and fielded with more suppleness on a sunny but cold day than counties sometimes do this early in the season. Their quicker men were mostly tidy and Yates floated his off spin cleverly into a brisk, diagonal wind that chilled the bones. Fitton turned the ball more but was never as accurate.

Cambridge, who have six Blues in residence, made a poor start when Allott and DeFreitas each took a wicket in their opening spell. Jones, a freshman, was caught behind and Clitheroe, appearing in the side for the first time since 1987, was held at forward short-leg.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings
G D Mendis c Turner b Arscott 44
G Fowler c Arscott b Bush 83
M A Atherton st Turner b Pearson 136
*N H Fairbrother c Bush b Waller 23
G D Lloyd c Morris b Johnson 70
M Watkinson b Pearson 10
P A J DeFreitas b Pearson 39
†W K Hegg not out 26
G Yates not out 11
Extras (b 8, lb 8, w 1, nb 1) 18
Total (7 wkts dec) 443
J D Fitton and P J W Allott did not bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-84, 2-133, 3-173, 4-307, 5-338, 6-377, 7-414.
BOWLING: Bush 22-7-78-1; Waller 18-1-84-1; Johnson 24-3-86-1; Arscott 12-2-44-1; Pearson 39-6-124-3; Lowsley 1-0-8-0.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings
G W Jones c Hegg b Allott 1
R I Clitheroe c Lloyd b DeFreitas 8
J P Crawley b Watkinson 83
*†R J Turner lbw b DeFreitas 43
M J Lowrey c Fowler b DeFreitas 43
M J Morris c Hegg b Watkinson 0
J P Arscott not out 35
R M Pearson c Mendis b Yates 2
R B Waller c Allott b Fitton 2
S W Johnson c DeFreitas b Yates 14
D J Bush c Hegg b Yates 5
Extras (b 4, lb 11) 15
Total 251
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-7, 2-21, 3-108, 4-189, 5-189, 6-223, 7-232, 8-235, 9-242, 10-251.
BOWLING: DeFreitas 23-5-62-3; Allott 15-5-23-1; Watkinson 22-7-52-2; Fitton 18-1-60-1; Yates 17.2-7-39-3.
Umpires: M J Kitchen and G I Burgess.

Newport lift the prizes before the game is over

Newport 23
South Wales Police 7

By GERALD DAVIES

WITH four minutes to go, Newport led by 16 points and the announcer declared that the home team would be presented with the Heineken League first division trophy as soon as the final whistle went. A cheque for £14,750 was theirs.

The club also received another cheque, from the *Western Mail*. The Cardiff-based newspaper, which announced it would award £10 a try to the highest try-scoring team, felt bold enough to give away its prize on Saturday, too. Newport have scored 79 tries, 31 better than their nearest rivals, Pontypool.

But it was a pallid affair at Rodney Parade which confirmed them at the top of the division as they won by one goal, two tries and three penalties to a try and a penalty. The game good play and good humour too. George broke away from his 22-metre line and drove through a thick rank of players. He was twice brought down, survived to carry on to the halfway line, and when he went down for the third time, the ball was swiftly rucked for each member of the backs to handle, draw his man, and to time his pass so as to release Lewis for the try. Turner converted and added another penalty.

In the fourth minute of injury time, Wakeford stole the ball in his own half, starting a counter-attack which saw Davies and the two Jones boys in midfield line up Williams for a try at the other end.

Turner extended the lead with a penalty before George lunged his way over from a ruck close to the line. Phillips scored a penalty for the Police before Turner got a try and a penalty to bring his club points total to 914. He is only the third player in Newport's history to score over 900 points.

SCORERS: Newport: Tries: Lewis, George, Turner. Conversions: Turner. Penalty goals: Turner (3). South Wales Police: Try: Williams. Penalty goal: Phillips.
NEWPORT: M Wentcott; D Griffiths, G Abraham, R Bidgood (rep: J Thomas), A Lewis; P Turner, N Calbert; M Davis, K Gregory, M Stiffonge, G George, K Moseley, D Weakes, A Carter, K Wilsey (rep: M Francis).
SOUTH WALES POLICE: A Hughes; J Williams, D Jones, K Jones, R Donovan; A Phillips (rep: M Cox), S Evans; M Pugh, C Hillman, H Williams-Jones, M Trigg, J Whitelord, S Sutton, N Davies, I Hembarrow.
Referee: R G Davies (Swansea).

☐ Neath beat Pontypool, the Schweppes Cup finalists, 16-9 to win the Heineken League premier division championship. Laity and Ball scored a try apiece and Thorburn a conversion and two penalties.

England's defence exposed

ENGLAND's 18-group grand slam hopes faded sadly at Colwyn Bay on Saturday, where Wales beat them 13-10 to win the junior triple crown (Michael Stevenson writes). The English were not remotely as impressive when soaking up pressure as when applying it.

Wales were the first side since the Australians to cope with England's giant pack. Martin was magnificent and won regular lineout ball, particularly when English errors proliferated in the second half.

The Welsh match-winner, their kicking stand-off half, Chris John, did not impress with the ball in his hands, but it was the pressure applied by the halves and the back row that hustled England into crucial errors.

SCORERS: Wales: Tries: C John, Harris. Conversion: C John. Dropped goal: C John. England: Tries: O'Leary (2). Conversion: Burke.

Full back heads a fly-past

WHILE Bath and Neath were being crowned champions elsewhere, the Royal Air Force were carrying off their twelfth inter-services championship, and their first since 1986, at Twickenham on Saturday (a Correspondent writes).

Having already denied the Army their fourth successive title, the RAF swept aside the Navy by 22 points to 13, Paul Hull kicking four penalties.

Rory Underwood, playing at full back, had hardly been seen in attack until rounding off the move which put the game beyond doubt halfway through the second half. Coming into the line on the Navy's ten-metre line, he moved into top gear and skirted the covering defence with ease.
completed.

SCORERS: Royal Navy: Tries: Martin, Trench. Conversion: Bethwaite. Penalty goal: Bethwaite. Royal Air Force: Tries: Worrall, Underwood. Conversion: Hull. Penalty goals: Hull (4).

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

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Law Report April 15 1991 — Court of Appeal

Enforcement treaty not applicable

Owens Bank Ltd v Bracco and Another

Before Lord Justice Parker, Lord Justice Balcombe and Lord Justice Ralph Gibson

[Judgment March 27]

The Convention on Jurisdiction and the Enforcement of Judgments in Civil and Commercial Matters 1968, imported into English law by the Civil Jurisdiction and Judgments Act 1982, did not apply to proceedings for the recognition and enforcement of the judgments of non-contracting states and in particular to proceedings under the Administration of Justice Act 1920.

The Court of Appeal so stated dismissing the appeal of the plaintiff, Owens Bank Ltd, from a decision of Sir Peter Pain sitting as a High Court judge (*The Times* August 29, 1990) and dismissing the appeal of the defendants, Dr Fulvio Bracco and Bracco Industria Chimica SpA, from a further decision of Sir Peter Pain (*The Times* January 8, 1991).

Mr Martin Mann QC and Mr Michael Gadd for the plaintiff bank; Miss Barbara Dohmann QC and Mr Thomas Beazley for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE PARKER, giving the judgment of the court, said that both appeals arose out of an application by the bank under section 9 of the 1920 Act to register a judgment of the Supreme Court of St Vincent dated January 29, 1988 against the defendants in the sum of SwFr10,543,372. The defendants sought to resist the bank's application to register the judgment on the ground of fraud.

The bank was a St Vincent company but the first defendant was an Italian resident and the second defendant an Italian company. Further proceedings had been commenced in Italy since the judgment of the St Vincent court. The issue of fraud had been squarely raised but had not yet been decided.

The defendants' contentions were:

1 The 1968 Convention applied to proceedings for registration and enforcement under the 1920 Act.

2 The Italian proceedings were commenced before the bank's application under the 1920 Act and raised the question whether the St Vincent judgment was obtained by fraud.

3 The court must, by virtue of article 21 of the 1968 Convention therefore decline jurisdiction in favour of the Italian court.

4 Alternatively, if article 21 was inapplicable, article 22 was applicable and the court could and should stay the English proceedings.

5 If the Convention did not apply or, notwithstanding that it did apply neither article 21 nor 22 applied, the court had power at common law to stay the proceedings here and should do so.

6 Alternatively, the court should order issues to be tried whether registration was prohibited on the facts by section 9(2)(d) and (f) of the 1920 Act.

7 It was in all the circumstances not just or convenient to order registration.

The preamble to the 1968 Convention appeared to the court to indicate clearly that the Convention was concerned with the jurisdiction of the courts of contracting states *inter se* and the reciprocal recognition and enforcement of the judgments of the courts of contracting states *inter se*.

Was there then anything in the body of the Convention to support or militate against what appeared to be the clear intention indicated by the preamble?

The court considered the various provisions of the Convention and concluded that it had no application to proceedings for the recognition and enforcement of the judgments of non-contracting states and in particular to proceedings under the 1920 Act.

If that conclusion was wrong did either article 21 or 22 apply? In the court's view both articles were concerned with original proceedings or actions and not with proceedings for the enforcement of judgments obtained in original proceedings.

Therefore, even if the Convention did in general apply, the court was not obliged to decline jurisdiction under article 21 and had no power to stay the bank's proceedings under article 22(1) or decline jurisdiction under article 22(2).

The power to register a foreign judgment which was given by section 9(1) of the 1920 Act was discretionary. Section 9(2) provided: "No judgment shall be ordered to be registered under this section if . . . (d) the judgment was obtained by fraud; . . . or (f) the judgment was in respect of a cause of action which for reasons of public policy or for some other similar reason could not have been entertained by the registering court."

The statute contained no provision for rules by reference to which the court was required to decided whether a *prima facie* case had been raised by a judgment debtor to the effect that the judgment was obtained by fraud, or whether such a contention had been established in law.

Parliament was to be taken to have intended that such questions were to be decided by reference to the common law which, as Parliament knew, was developed by the courts to meet particular cases as they arose.

The decisions in *Abouloff v Oppenheimer & Co* ((1882) 10 QBD 295) and *Vadala v Lawes* ((1890) 25 QBD 310) were, in the court's judgment, clearly binding on the court.

In particular, it was clear that the rules for setting aside an English judgment on the ground that it was obtained by fraud were not the same as those applicable in registration proceedings or in a common law action to the raising of an issue of fraud with reference to a foreign judgment.

It was clear that in the bank's proceedings under the 1920 Act the rule in *Abouloff* was to be applied. That rule did not include any requirement of fresh evidence whether in the limited sense derived by the judge from *McIlkenny v Chief Constable of the West Midlands Police* ([1980] 1 QB 283), or any other terms. The decision in *McIlkenny* was not directed to the enforcement of a foreign judgment.

The question to be considered in the present case was whether a *prima facie* case had been put forward by the defendants that the St Vincent judgments were obtained by fraud.

In the court's judgment there was clearly such a case. Accordingly, the court agreed with the judge that there was an issue to be tried.

Furthermore, the English court had power to stay the trial in England of the issue whether the St Vincent judgment was obtained by fraud pending the trial of the same issue in Italy.

It could be productive of great injustice to allow the issue to go ahead in England when the same issue could be better tried in Italy and the Italian decision could be determinative of the issue for the purposes of the English proceedings.

The judge clearly considered that he had a discretion to stay the English proceedings but that it was inappropriate now to exercise that discretion. The court would in any event be reluctant to interfere with the judge's discretion but in the court's judgment there was no valid basis for asserting that the judge exercised his discretion correctly.

Despite strong factors in favour of an Italian forum there were, as the judge recognised, objections to the grant of a stay at the present time. The issue of fraud directed by the judge to be tried would proceed.

Solicitors: Charles Russell; Clifford Chance.

Refusal to move prisoner justified

Regina v Secretary of State for the Home Department, Ex parte McComb

The Home Secretary was entitled to refuse to move a prisoner from an English prison to one in Northern Ireland on the ground that the crimes for which he had been convicted were so serious that it was inappropriate to transfer him to Northern Ireland where he would benefit from more generous remission.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Rougier) so held on March 26 in refusing an application for judicial review brought by John Gabriel McComb against the decision of the secretary of state dated December 14, 1989 to refuse permanent transfer to a prison in Northern Ireland for the remainder of his sentence.

LORD JUSTICE TAYLOR said that remission in England was one-third of the sentence whereas in Northern Ireland it was a half.

Counsel for the applicant relied, *inter alia*, on the applicant's assertion that he was prepared to waive the more generous remission given in Northern Ireland. It was not for a prisoner to say when he would or would not be released. That was a matter for the authorities who were bound solely by the criteria of good behaviour.

Irresponsible conduct relevant

Chief Constable of Essex v Germain

A chief constable deciding whether to revoke a shotgun licence was entitled to take into account irresponsible conduct by the licence-holder not involving a shotgun.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Stuart-Smith and Mr Justice Tucker) so held on March 20 in upholding an appeal by the Chief Constable of Essex from the decision of Judge Groves at Chelmsford Crown Court to restore the licence of Peter Albert Germain which had been revoked following his second drink-driving conviction within five years.

LORD JUSTICE STUART-SMITH said the crown court had wrongly considered itself bound by *Ackers v Taylor* ([1974] 1 WLR 405) to take into account only conduct arising out of misuse or abuse of a shotgun.

The chief constable was entitled to take the view that the drink-driving convictions revealed irresponsible and uncontrolled behaviour making the licence holder unsuitable to have a shotgun under section 30(2) of the Firearms Act 1968. It was a matter for the chief constable's discretion to what extent he should investigate the facts of the particular case.

Bath all sun and champagne

Bath	45
Rosslyn Park	21

By BRYAN STILES

JOHN Hall emerged from the dressing-room with a half-drunk bottle of champagne and declared: "Perfect for celebrating champagne rugby." Bath's performance might not have been of quite such a vintage but their exhilarating victory was the perfect way to celebrate winning the Courage Clubs Championship.

Bath, the most complete side in England, laid claim to the trophy for the second time in three years in a style that should silence those who would have us believe that all league rugby is boring and barren.

Hall, the Bath back-row forward, played a towering role in a seven-try spree that could have turned into a 60-point thrashing for Park had they not possessed a spirit and organisation that enabled them continually to strike back even when Bath were threatening to engulf them.

After leading 29-0 at half-time, Bath eased back and carelessness, coupled with Park's determination, enabled the visitors to claw their way back, leaving Bath with a victory by four goals, three tries, a dropped goal and two penalty goals to three goals and a penalty.

Five minutes before the end a message was broadcast that Orrell, Bath's only rivals for the title, had lost to Wasps and that Bath were champions. This put added bite into Park's efforts in an exciting final burst.

It was perhaps fitting that Wasps should have snuffed out Orrell's hopes as they are the only club to have beaten Bath in the league this season. Stuart Barnes, the mercurial stand-off, said it was considerate of Wasps to do Bath such a favour and enable them to secure the title in front of their own supporters.

He claimed, diplomatically, that he had not heard his friends in the crowd chiding Roger Uttley, the England coach, for not taking him on their tour of Australia and Fiji this summer.

Barnes put his stamp on this game, as he has with many others, with splendid breaks, fine kicking and sure passing. He was also keen to show of the skills of a back division in which Guscott and de Glanville excelled.

Uttley was also there to assess the relative merits of Redman, of Bath, and Dear, of Park, for the two vacant lock positions for the tour. He must have come away thinking that Haag, the Bath lock, was the best of the bunch. He shone like a beacon in the lineout and the loose, capping his display with a try.

Guscott unlocked the floodgates as early as the seventieth second, when he seized on a long Swift pass to race over. Swift collected the second try after Park failed to deal with a Barnes up-and-under, Barnes dropped a goal, Haag tore through a gap for his try, Webb kick a penalty, converted Swift's second try and completed the first-half scoring with another penalty.

Early in the second half, Graves began Park's fightback with a penalty and a try, which he goaled himself. Lelcu and Tayler added tries, which Graves converted. Bath almost kept pace with tries by Webb, Mark Crane and Barnes, two of which Webb converted. It was exciting stuff and as Barnes acknowledged: "The sun shone on us today."

SCORERS: Bath: Tries: Guscott, Swift (2), Haag, Webb, M Crane, Barnes. Conversions: Webb (4). Dropped goal: Barnes. Penalty goals: Webb (2). Rosslyn Park: Tries: Graves, Lelcu, Tayler. Conversions: Graves (3). Penalty goal: Graves.
BATH: J Webb; A Swift, P de Glanville, J Guscott, J Fallon; S Barnes, R Hill; G Chilcott, G Dawe, M Crane, A Robinson, M Haag, N Redman, J Hall, D Egerton (rep: V Ubogu).
ROSSLYN PARK: J Graves; S Hunter, K Wyles, G Lelcu, M Thomas, M Jarman, R Moon; P Essenhigh, D Barnett, C McGauley, T Hyde (rep: J Crane), S Dear, G Curtis, P Tayler, T Brooks.
Referee: S Griffiths (Solihull).

MARC ASPLAND



Applying the hand brake: Fallon, of Bath, grits his teeth as he accelerates away

Mukaddamah moves to head of Guineas betting

By MICHAEL SEELY, RACING CORRESPONDENT

MUKADDAMAH is the new favourite for the 2,000 Guineas. Further support for Peter Walwyn's colt over the weekend saw him replace the Henry Cecil-trained Desert Sun at the head of affairs for the first time.

Ladbrokes now make Mukaddamah their favourite at 3-1 (from 4-1). They then go 4-1 Desert Sun, 10-1 Marju (from 12-1) and 14-1 bar those three. Corals also make Mukaddamah favourite at 7-2 but Hills offer 9-2 and retain Desert Sun as their 3-1 favourite.

Those with long memories will recall 1975. Due to the stable lads' strike that year, the Guineas was started by flag. After being slowly into his stride, the Walwyn-trained Grundy, a hot favourite, was beaten half a length by Bolkonski, a 33-1 outsider, who gave Cecil the first of his 12 British classic winners.

Although both men refuse to be carried away, they each hold their potential stars in high regard. "Mukaddamah's a different type from Grundy," said Walwyn. "He was the type of horse who could act anywhere, go anywhere, do anything. Mukaddamah on the other hand is a long-striding horse. But he is a lovely mover and when he finds his stride, it is impressive."

Over a period of time, no man has been more accurate in his judgements than Cecil. So it was exciting to hear the nine-times champion trainer waxing lyrical about Desert Sun. "I know he's still got it all to prove on the racecourse," said Cecil. "But he's the best miling prospect I have had since Bolkonski, Wollow and Kris."

On Saturday, Steve Cauthen was on board Desert Sun in a seven-furlong gallop as Pat Eddery was riding work for Roger Charlton. "I wasn't hard on him," Cecil went on. "The colt settled in behind and the plan was for him to draw alongside at the finish. But when Steve pulled him out, Desert Sun just picked up his bit and went."

Among the horses that Cecil plans to send to Newbury next weekend are Hip To Time and Axe. An easy winner at Nottingham in October, Hip To Time will be attempting to repeat the victories of Old Vic and Belmez in the past two seasons in the Burghclere Stakes. Axe, an unraced Kris colt, goes for the Compton Maiden Stakes.

Intended opponents for Desert Sun in the Craven Stakes include Marju and Sea Level. But Luca Cumani has not yet decided whether to run Island Universe at Newmarket or wait for the Greenham.

James Fanshawe would still like to run Radwell but the Solario Stakes winner bruised a foot and was forced to miss a Saturday workout. "It's been poulticed and he could be all right," said the trainer. "If not, I have a couple of alternatives."

Polish King, a smooth winner for Michael Stoute at Newmarket in November, is a definite absentee if no significant rain falls before Thursday. "The ground will be pretty firm," said Stoute. "I'll probably reroute Polish King to the Greenham or the Thirsk Classic Trial."

On the 1,000 Guineas front, news came from Roger Charlton that Imperfect Circle, the Cheveley Park Stakes runner-up, is likely to miss the race. "She is not ready yet and the chances of her running at Newmarket are slim," the Beckhampton trainer said.

Richard Hannon is uncertain whether to send the well-backed Only Yours for tomorrow's Nell Gwyn Stakes at Newmarket or take on Shadayid in the Fred Darling Stakes at Newbury on Friday.

"Pat came over and rode her this morning," said the trainer. "She went well enough with a terrible headwind. I want Pat to ride her so a lot will depend on which race Barry Hills runs Mr Abdulla's filly, Dangora. Shalford also worked well and goes for the Greenham."

Confirming the well-being of Crystal Gazing, likely favourite for tomorrow's fillies' trial, Luca Cumani was astounded to hear that his 10-length Newcastle winner, Suomi, is the new Derby favourite at 14-1 with Ladbrokes.

Pipe the first to £1m

MARTIN Pipe became the first National Hunt trainer to earn £1 million in prize-money in a season when Colour Scheme won at Southwell on Saturday.

When told of the record at Ascot, Pipe said: "Have I? I hadn't been keeping a record but it's marvellous. Hopefully, we'll keep turning out the winners and have a party to celebrate the landmark at the end of the season."

Other jumping news yesterday came from David Barons, who said that Seagram, his Grand National winner, is now an intended runner in the Whitbread Gold Cup on Saturday week. "He'll go to Sandown, but only if there is cut in the ground — the last thing we want to do is break him down on fast going," Barons said after talks with Seagram's owner, Sir Eric Parker.

Seagram's rivals at Sandown will include Jenny Pitman's Golden Freeze, who led the National field for more than a circuit, and Kim Bailey's Aintree disappointments, Mr Frisk and Docklands Express.

Rinus, stiff from his National fall, misses Saturday's William Hill Scottish National but Gordon Richards is still likely to run last year's winner, Four Trix.

Always next year for club whose hopes are dashed

Orrell	12
Wasps	14

By DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

APRIL has been the cruellest month for Orrell. When it began they nurtured hopes in league and cup. Now they have none. The only certainty, given their inexorable rise over the last 20 years, is that they will learn from the experience and be better for it next year. Always next year.

The Lancashire club has reached a plateau. Like England this season, much of Orrell's game was good enough for all but the best. The best for England comes in the World Cup in the autumn. The best for Orrell is the more rounded clubs in the country: Bath, deserving Courage Clubs Championship winners, and Wasps, league winners last season and possessed of a back division which Orrell cannot match.

Much of the damage at Edge Hall Road on Saturday was done by one of their own: Fran Clough arrived at Wasps by way of Orrell and Cambridge University and his strength and speed made the home midfield look plain.

His display will have made Geoff Cooke and John Elliott, the England selectors on the lookout for reserve strength, think furiously, since he has been omitted from the tour party to the southern hemisphere this summer.

At least the pair could look at Chris Oti and see a player feeling his way back to his best. Oti's try, his second, in the second minute of injury time gave Wasps their victory by two tries and two penalty goals to a goal and two penalties which effectively removed any threat to Bath's league supremacy. But the warning lights had flashed for Orrell long before.

Orrell made little use of the wind in the first half and led only 9-4. For all the work of Kimmins, Ashurst and Morris in the second, they were doomed to be thwarted by Buzza's outstanding tackling and driven back by Andrew. Orrell, too, were forced to watch Strett kicking all but one of his goals. Had he achieved the same margin a week earlier, in the cup against Northampton, Orrell might now be planning for the final.

It was a magnificent achievement for them to dredge up such spirit against Wasps as they did after the disappointment at Northampton, though perhaps the emotional reception from their own supporters when they returned home from the semi-final had something to do with that.

Each club scored a first-half try, Dunston's surge from a tapped penalty having much to do with Oti's first and Kimmins winning the lineout from which Ashurst was driven over. Andrew and Strett exchanged penalties and, with a minute left and his side trailing by five points, Andrew elected to kick a second.

It seemed likely to be the wrong decision but Wasps ran out of defence and Clough's pass gave Oti the room to round Heslop on the outside and thrust his way to the corner.

SCORERS: Orrell: Try: Ashurst. Conversion: Strett. Penalty goals: Strett (2). Wasps: Tries: Oti (2). Penalty goals: Andrew (2).
ORRELL: S Tabemer; N Heslop, S Langford, G Ainscough, P Halsall; M Strett, D Morris; M Hynes, N Hitchen (rep: I Taylor), D Southern, D Cleary, R Kimmins, D Cusani, N Ashurst, S Bibby.
WASPS: A Buzza; P Hopley, F Clough, G Childs, C Oti; R Andrew, S Bates; G Holmes, A Simmons, I Dunston, M White, C Pinnegar, S O'Leary, M Rigby, D Ryan.
Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset).

Rugby are a point from promotion

Coventry	9
Rugby	13

By BARRY TROWBRIDGE

IN A match never likely to linger in the memory far beyond tea-time, Rugby stood their ground at Coundon Road on Saturday to claim two vital points in pursuit of first-division status in the Courage Clubs Championship. Their destiny is firmly in their own hands.

With one game left, at home to Newcastle Gosforth a week on Saturday, Rugby need only to draw to guarantee promotion. London Irish require three points from their last two matches to join them. Should either falter, Wakefield or Coventry could profit.

Games between these near neighbours have had a reputation for being ill-tempered, forward-dominated battles. However, fortunately for the crowd, it was a dry day and the runners at least had a chance.

But only in the last six minutes did Coventry offer a serious threat, although they started well, Steve Thomas slotting over a penalty goal in seven minutes. But from a poor tap by Bowman, who was given a torrid afternoon in the lineout by Mackie, Bishop swept the ball to Pell, who dropped a goal, left-footed, to level soon after.

With the Rugby pack controlling the loose, Bishop fed Ellis at speed for a score in the left-hand corner after 26 minutes, which Vaudin converted, although with a stiff breeze to face, 9-3 seemed a precarious half-time advantage with such high stakes to play for.

Against the territorial run of play, Bishop capped a solid performance behind his forwards with an opportunist try of his own wide on the right 14 minutes after the break, leaving Coventry, lacking penetration, with two scores now to find.

They managed one. From a drive by Tregilgas, Bullock claimed a consolation try with six minutes remaining. Earlier penalty misses by Martin Fairn and Steve Thomas seemed even more costly as Rugby weathered the storm.

SCORERS: Coventry: Try: Bullock. Conversion: Fairn. Penalty goal: S Thomas. Rugby: Tries: Ellis, Bishop. Conversion: Vaudin. Dropped goal: Pell.
COVENTRY: A Parton; L McKenzie, M Fairn, J Minshull, S Hall; R Angell, S Thomas; G Tregilgas, G Sharp, W Bullock, G Smith, J Hyde, R Mackie, P Thomas, I Pickup.
RUGBY: M Mapleson; E Saunders, S Vaudin, M Palmer, K Shaw; R Pell, D Bishop; I Heywood, S Brain, T Revan, M Ellis, M Fleetwood, P Bowman, A Ruddlesdin, N Mapletoft.
Referee: G Seddon (Manchester).

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FOUR RACE MEETINGS

Ascot

2.0 1, Springsleek (100-30); 2, Tim Soldier (7-1); 3, Great Flutter (11-2). Legal Beagle 3-1 fav. 17 ran. NR: Alegbye, Sebald River.
2.30 1, Arctic Baron (25-1); 2, A Lad Insane (25-1); 3, Close Escape (11-2). Master Glasson 7-2 fav. 13 ran. NR: Hean Of Kings, Stop Two.
3.5 1, Kings Fountain (8-1); 2, Mighty Falcon (9-2); 3, Ginus A Buck (9-2). Lumberjack 4-1 fav. 11 ran. NR: Pragada.
3.35 1, Mottalder (3-1 fav); 2, Peace King (5-1); 3, Redgrave Girl (8-1). 10 ran. NR: Star Swanson.
4.5 1, Pipers Copse (4-1 fav); 2, Shah's Choice (12-1); 3, Theo's Fella (7-1). 13 ran. NR: Dat Train, Lord Torenaga.
4.40 1, John Sam (9-2); 2, King Neon (4-1); 3, Wellington Brown (7-2). Mount Argus 5-2 fav. 11 ran.
5.15 1, Mr Jamboree (9-2); 2, Current Express (7-1); 3, Charlesforhardware (14-1). Mountain Master 100-30 fav. 18 ran. NR: Jet Set, Turf Run, Welly Sibby.
5.50 1, Hazel Crest (13-8 fav); 2, Coasting (9-2); 3, Bear Necessities (25-1). 19 ran. NR: Charly Mutual, Eric's Trish, Flying Saxon, Cherrity Lo'Rol, Final Harvest, Rocco.

Beverley

2.15 1, Pharoah's Guest (5-1); 2, Military Honour (4-1 jt-fav); 3, Silly Habit 4-1 (jt-fav). 21 ran. NR: Nas Bother, Pontevecchio Bella, Cocked Hat Girl.
2.45 1, Diamond Mine (2-5 fav); 2, Auction King (16-1); 3, Governor's Imp (7-1). 7 ran.
3.15 1, Kerazen (3-1 jt-fav); 2, Sapphirine (16-1); 3, Front Page (3-1 jt-fav). 10 ran
3.45 1, Eager Dave (4-1 fav); 2, Hinari Video (6-1); 3, Wanda (20-1); 4, Dominuet (20-1). 20 ran. NR: Playful Poet, The Singing Man.
4.15 1, Brown Fairy (10-1); 2, Wild Prospect (20-1); 3, Jall's Guest (5-1); 4, Grey Record (7-1). High Kicking 2-1 fav. 18 ran.
4.45 1, Stop Press (6-4 fav); 2, Vluru (5-1); 3, Cruise Party (3-1). 11 ran. NR: Boroosy.

Warwick

1.45 1, Platz (2-5 fav; Mandarin's rasp); 2, Miss Foxtrot (14-1); 3, Lucky Noire (25-1). 15 ran.
2.15 1, Titch Wizard (25-1); 2, Noble Power (16-1); 3, Red Sombrero (16-1). Sir Slingsby 2-1 fav. 12 ran. NR: Dollar Wise.
2.45 1, Restore (12-1); 2, Plain Fact (7-1); 3, Flying Promise (33-1). Tamiami 11-4 fav. 15 ran.
3.20 1, Non Constat (20-1); 2, Clear Light (5-1); 3, Cabochon (11-4 fav). 8 ran. NR: Indubitable.
3.50 1, Myfontaine (13-2); 2, Busted Rock (7-1); 3, Tribocade (14-1); 4, Al Starry. (12-1). John's Joy 9-2 fav 20 ran.
4.20 1, Sellinscourt (16-1); 2, Medaille D'Or (15-2); 3, Mastahane (16-1); 4, Shades Of Vera (8-1). Vilacy 5-1 fav. 18 ran. NR: Time Lord.
4.50 1, Cross Magic (33-1); 2, Riverslever Steo (7-4 fav); 3, Figment (8-1). 15 ran.
5.20 1, Clipping (Evens fav); 2, Interrogate (5-2); 3, Lydia Maria (10-1). 14 ran.

Southwell

2.15 1, Stavsyrui (7-2); 2, Mount Kinabalu (4-1); 3, Decidedly Dutch (5-1). Here Comes Charter 5-2 fav. 12 ran.
2.45 1, Colour Scheme (2-1 fav); 2, Sweet 'N' Low (5-2); 3, Floral (20-1). 17 ran.
3.15 1, Howgill (7-1); 2, Pipicante (13-2); 3, Lava Falls (10-1). Singing Forever 5-1 fav. 12 ran. NR: Olympus Rest.
3.45 1, Ink Splash (6-5 fav), 2, Royle Speedmaster (7-4); 3, Past Reelm (33-1). 9 ran. NR: Precious Memories.
4.15 1, Admiral's Leap (7-4); 2, Into The Red (4-5 fav); 3, Tara Boy (8-1). 8 ran. NR: Bonnie Dundee, The Fortea.
4.45 1, Royal Mile (8-13 fav), 2, Pukl Puki (5-1); 3, Be Patient My Son (33-1). 7 ran. NR: Quickest, Hiram B Birdbath.
5.15 1, Bell Dip (3-1 fav); 2, Vintage Velvet (4-1); 3, Lisberal (17-2). 6 ran. NR: Espero, Highland Lairo, Mezzocannbe, How Majestic. Tiber Melody (9-2) withdrawn not under orders — rule 4 applies to all bets, deduct 15p in pound.
5.45 1, Palace Gardens (12-1); 2, Deep Spartacus (5-1 fav); 3, Watersign (10-1). 9 ran. NR: Dan O'Poly.
6.15 1, Bustamente (3-1); 2, Good Seoul (33-1); 3, Teacake (5-1). Ellerton Hill 7-4 fav. 10 ran.
6.45 1, Knockannis (11-8 fav); 2, Pure Money (2-1); 3, African Safari (25-1). 7 ran. NR: Vulcory's Clown, Outlaw, Royal Cracker, Noble Eyre, Malway Boy.

Sab-An gains consolation

By BRIAN BEEL

SAB-AN, an unlucky loser in his previous race, gained consolation in the *The Times* Championship qualifier at the Ledbury point-to-point on Saturday.

Creole Bay, under Damien Duggan, led from the sixth fence and looked likely to stay there until a blunder three from home forfeited his five length lead.

Tommy Jackson came alongside on Sab-An, the 9-4 favourite and quickly went on. He had the race won when worrying his supporters with a mistake at the last, but held on by two lengths from Creole Bay with the well-backed Errant Knight 12 lengths away third.

The winner was a ten-year-old maiden and is the first horse owned by John Garbett, who has him at livery with the former jockey, Ron Hyett.

Alison Dare, on Stephen's Pet, renewed her rivalry here with Master Eryl and Nicky Guilding, having come off the better by a short head at the Croome. On this occasion she appeared to be having the worst of the duel when Master Eryl fell two out.

The win put Dare on the 12 mark for the season to remain level with Pip Nash after her one success on Harwall Queen in a division of the restricted at the Glamorgan.

Philip Schofield added only one to his season's tally from five rides at the Tetcott, his win coming in *The Times* qualifier on Broughton Manor, owned jointly by Pat Piper and Ron Cook. He had already qualified by coming second at the Spooners and West Dartmoor but on Saturday was well in command from five out.

After his treble at the Axe Vale on Wednesday, Justin Farthing had a double on Rushing Wild in the open and Connate in the adjacent at the Portman and closed the gap to two in the title race. Connate was winning for him for the third time in eight days over varying types of course and different goings.

WEEKEND RUGBY UNION RESULTS AND TABLES

Courage Clubs Championship First division

Bath	45	Rosslyn Pk	21

Bath: Tries: Swift (2), Guscott, Haag, Webb, M Crane, Barnes. Cons: Webb (4). Pens: Webb (2). Dropped goal: Barnes. Rosslyn Park: Tries: Graves, Lelcu, Tayler. Cons: Graves (3). Pen: Graves.

Bristol	15	Gloucester	12

Bristol: Tries: Woodman. Con: Thomas. Pens: Thomas 3. Gloucester: Tries: Phillips, Miles. Cons: Smith (2).

Harlequins	33	Moseley	6

Harlequins: Tries: Hamman (2), Banks, Luxton, Glenister. Cons: Glenister (2). Pens: Pears (3). Moseley: Pen: Amtzen. Dropped goal: Amtzen.

Liverpool SH	3	Saracens	17

Liverpool St Helens: Pen: Higgins. Saracens: Tries: Dooley (2), Roda. Con: Tunningley. Pen: Rudling.

Northampton	22	Nottingham	15

Northampton: Tries: Shelford (2). Con: J Steele. Pens: J Steele (4). Nottingham: Tries: Jones. Con: Hodgkinson. Pens: Hodgkinson (3).

Orrell	12	Wasps	14

Orrell: Tries: Ashurst. Con: Strett. Pens: Strett (2) Wasps: Tries: Oti (2). Pens: Andrew (2).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bath	11	10	0	1	231	99	20
Harlequins	11	8	0	3	248	124	16
Wasps	10	7	1	2	155	128	15
Orrell	10	7	0	3	223	74	14
Leicester	10	6	0	4	188	109	12
Gloucester	11	5	0	6	169	144	10
Rosslyn Pk	11	5	0	6	166	174	10
Northampton	10	5	0	5	119	154	10
Bristol	11	4	1	6	118	173	9
Northampton	10	4	1	5	133	196	9
Saracens	10	4	0	6	117	176	8
Moseley	10	1	1	8	84	185	3
Liverpool SH	11	0	0	11	84	298	0

Second division

Blackheath	14	Sale	12

Blackheath: Try: Whitcombe. Con: Booth. Pens: Booth (2). Sale: Tries: Jones, Clark. Pens: Burns (2).

Coventry	9	Rugby	13

Coventry: Tries: Sharp. Con: Fern. Pens: Thomas. Rugby: Tries: Ellis, Bishop. Con: Vaudin. Dropped goals: Pell.

Headingley	31	Plymouth	6

Headingley: Tries: Joyce (2), Higgins, Hartley, Mitchell, Green. Cons: Hartley, Mitchell. Pen: Mitchell. Plymouth Albion: Dropped goal: Thompson. Pen: Butcher.

L Scottish	22	Waterloo	16

London Scottish: Tries: Millard (2), Weir, Renwick, Dixon. Cons: Gredan. Waterloo: Try: Bracegirdle. Pens: Aitchison (4).

N Gosforth	22	Bedford	7

Newcastle Gosforth: Tries: Holdstock, Costes. Con: Johnson. Pens: Johnson (4). Bedford: Tries: Rennell. Pen: Finnie.

Wakefield	20	Richmond	3

Wakefield: Tries: Garnett, Rawnsley, Scully. Con: Atkinson. Pens: Atkinson (2). Richmond: Pen: Clarke.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rugby	11	9	0	2	227	139	18
Wakefield	11	8	0	3	179	94	16
Coventry	11	8	0	3	156	106	16
L Irish	10	8	0	2	197	158	16
L Scottish	12	7	0	5	240	176	14
N Gosforth	10	6	0	4	145	91	12
Sale	11	6	1	6	201	140	9
Waterloo	11	4	1	6	151	191	9
Bedford	11	3	2	6	122	183	8
Blackheath	11	3	0	8	119	166	6
Headingley	11	3	0	8	115	199	6
Plymouth A	11	3	0	8	114	201	6
Richmond	11	3	0	8	116	227	6

Third division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Askeans	23	Broughton Pk					6
Clifton	17	Nuneaton					22
Exeter	14	Vale of Lune					12
Fylde	23	Sheffield					12
Met Police	17	Roundhay					12
Morley	10	W Hartlepool					9
W Hartlepool	11	9	1	1	282	90	19
Morley	12	9	1	2	210	118	19
Exeter	11	7	2	2	156	128	16
Fylde	11	6	2	3	155	108	14
Clifton	11	5	1	4	165	152	13
Askeans	11	4	2	5	141	137	10
Sheffield	11	4	1	6	177	199	9
Lydney	11	4	1	6	122	153	9
Nuneaton	11	4	0	7	145	197	8
Broughton Pk	11	4	0	7	99	181	8
Roundhay	11	3	1	7	113	159	7
Met Police	11	3	0	8	107	172	6
Vale of Lune	11	3	0	8	114	203	6

Fourth division north

Birmingham	9	Hereford	9
Durham	10	Wilmington Pk	11
Harrogate	6	Stourbridge	15
Kendal	3	Otley	16
Lichfield	27	Stoke	17
Northern	17	Walsall	10

Fourth division south

Basingstoke	27	Weston s Mare	19
Camborne	26	North Walsham	6
Cheltenham	25	Sudbury	10
Ealing	18	Redruth	19
Havant	22	Maidenhead	6
L Welsh	28	Southend	12

Heineken Welsh League Premier division

Abertillery	7	Newbridge	40

Abertillery: Try: Phillips. Pen: Smith. Newbridge: Tries: Hanles (2), Taylor (2), Allen (2), Waters, penalty try. Cons: Hanles (4).

Glamorgan W	15	Cardiff	42

Glamorgan Wanderers: Tries: Ward, Phillips. Cons: Bolderson (2). Pen: Bolderson. Cardiff: Tries: Ring (3), Hall (3), Collins, Donovan. Cons: Rayer (5).

Llanelli	27	Swansea	22

Llanelli: Tries: Evans, Stephens, Lewis, Jones. Cons: Stephens (4). Pen: Stephens. Swansea: Tries: Titley, S Davies, I Davies. Cons: Wyatt (2). Pens: Wyatt (2).

Neath	16	Pontypool	9

Neath: Tries: Laity, Ball. Con: Thorburn. Pens: Thorburn (2). Pontypool: Pens: Parry (3).

Pontypridd	15	Bridgend	14

Pontypridd: Try: Mason. Con: Jenkins. Pens: Jenkins (2). Dropped goal: Jenkins. Bridgend: Tries: Webbe (2), Bradshaw. Con: Williams.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Neath	16	14	0	2	340	176	28
Llanelli	16	10	1	5	338	257	21
Bridgend	16	9	2	5	240	229	20
Cardiff	16	9	1	6	364	221	19
Newbridge	16	8	0	8	299	292	16
Swansea	16	8	0	8	309	256	16
Pontypridd	15	7	1	7	281	240	15
Pontypool	15	7	0	8	324	247	14
Glamorgan W	16	3	0	13	149	431	6
Abertillery	16	1	1	14	125	506	3

First division

Aberavon	9	Cross Keys	16
Ebbw Vale	16	Tredegar	11
Newport	23	Sth Wales Pol	7
Penarth	6	Maesteg	46

Inter-Services championship

RAF	22	Royal Navy	13

Club match

Leicester	54	L Irish	18

SCOTLAND: Lanarkshire Cup: Second round: Dalziel HSFP 12, Cambuslang 3. Sevens tournaments: Melrose: Final: Irish Wolf Hounds 26, Kelso 12. Midlands district: Final: Dundee HSFP 28, Kirkcaldy 12. Hawick PSA-Wanderers: Final: Kelso Harlequins 20, Hawick PSA A 8. Lanarkshire (Hamilton): Final: Waysiders 22, Drumpellier 10. Dumfries: Final: Gala YM 32, Wigtownshire 10. Highland: Final: Highland 20, Aberdeen GSFP 16. Lismore: Final: Edinburgh Academicals 38, Lismore 18. Glasgow University: Final: Kilmarnock 32, Hillhead-Jordanhill 6.
SOUTH WEST: Courage Clubs Championship: Gloucester: First division: Longlevens 21, Cheltenham North 14. Cornwall: First division: St Agnes 20, Liskeard-Looe 20; Wadebridge Camels 28, Falmouth 20. Somerset: First division: Old Redcliffians 18, St Bernadette Old Boys 8. Club matches: A Bath 24, Cardiff A Wyndcliffe 24, Trowbridge 7, Bristol 9, Clifton 7, Bath 9, North Shields 20; Burtonwood 52, Sefton XV 3; Calcy 25, Ripca 16; Chesterfield 19, Wigston 8; Cockermouth 19, Carlisle 19; Darlington 26, Hartlepool 11; Derby 18, Rotherham 24; Dinnington 33, East Retford 4; Dukinfield 20, Didsbury Toc H 19; Durham City 10, Wilmington Park 11; Hartlepool Rovers 13, Gateshead Fell 18; Horden 18, Workington 22; Hornsea 3, Whitby 15; Huddersfield YMCA 17, Gleckheaton 8; Huttenslane 13, Wheatley Hills 17; Hull Ionians 0, Sandal 12; Keighley 34, Windermere 18; Leeds YMCA 3, Leeds Corinthians 17; Leodiensians 71, Roundhay Trojans 0; Malton and Norton 38, Old Moorlanders 0; Manchester YMCA 12, Carnforth 8; Melrovick 31, Glossop 10; Middlesbrough 19, Alnwick 11; Newark 21, Southwell 6; Newton-le-Willows 10, Eccles 28; Northallerton 11, Acklam 8; Old Crossleyans 32, Bridlington 17; Old Ineonians 12, Morpeyside Police 48; Old Rishworthians 20, Aberbrarians 0; Old Saltians 46, Old Bedians 4; Penrith 8, Wigton 70; Percy Park 10, Consett 13; Rochdale 23, Moortown 13; Ruskin Park 14, Old Parkonians 4; Scunthorpe 22, Worksop 13; Seaton Carew 19, Westoe XV 7; Sedgley Park 3, Rossendale 12; Tynedale 10, Stockton 11; Wath 19, Shiremoor Tigers 15; Weston 43, Warrington 6; Whickes 25, Davenport 16; Wigan 37, Portstreet 12; Wilmslow 19, West Park (St Helens) 31; Yarnbury 25, Leeds CSSA 6.
IRELAND: AIB Ulster Senior Challenge Cup: Semi-finals: Instonians 19, Bangor 24 (at Ravenhill); Ballymena 10, Dungannon 9 (at Ravenhill). Senior club: Malone 46, West of Scotland 15. Leinster Senior Cup: Quarter-Finals: Terenure College 15, St Mary's College 3 (at Lansdowne Road); Lansdowne 28, Vectiv Rangers 3 (at Lansdowne Road). Senior Club: Skerrie's 8, City of Derry 27.

Yesterday

Women's World Cup Final

United States	19	England	6

United States: Tries: Godwin 2, Connell. Cons: Harju (2). Pen: Harju.
England: Try: Penalty try. Con: Burns. (at Cardiff).

COLTS INTERNATIONAL: France 14, England 6 (at Arcachons).

LANCASHIRE TROPHY: Final: Manchester 27, St Edward's Old Boys 10 (at Liverpool St Helens).

RESULTS FROM SATURDAY'S FOUR RACE MEETINGS

BELVOIR (Garthorpe): Hunt: 1, True Dowry (Mrs J Wills, 8-13 fav); 2, Terry's Lad; 3, Carats Major. 6 ran. Adj: 1, Borrowdale (R Walker, 5-1); 2, Netsmac; 3, Perlscope. 8 ran. Ladies: 1, Stalled Park (Mrs J Dawson, 4-6 fav); 2, Bergamma; 3, Clones Duke. 9 ran. Open: 1, Gentle Approach (A Sansome, 4-5 fav); 2, Border Burg; 3, Golden Casino. 4 ran. Timed Rest: 1, No Smoking (N Pomfret, 6-4 fav); 2, Portonia. Only 2 finished. 7 ran. Mdn: 1, Northern Walk (L Kirtley, 20-1); 2, Martin O'Sheunessy; 3, Misty Miller. 14 ran.

BICESTER WITH WHADDON CHASE (Little Horwood): Hunt: 1, Battle Run (J Weatherby, 1-4 fav); 2, Funchen View; 3, Dan Boy. 5 ran. Adj: 1, Valued Opinion (Miss R Smith, 5-4) finished alone. 3 ran. Land Rover Open: 1, Baybright (G Tarry, 1-2 fav); 2, Good Waters; 3, London Windows. 5 ran. Ladies: 1, Can't Catch Me (Mrs T Hill, 2-1); 2, Pala Chief; 3, Wide Missouri. 9 ran. Rest: 1, Royal Sunshine (I McKie, Evens fav); 2, Hanging Rock; 3, Mr Sponge. 5 ran. Mdn: 1, Red Rumour (I McKie, 4-7 fav); 2, Mandy; 3, Zarbo. 10 ran. Mdn II: 1, Arctic Rose (L Lay, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Harry Monk; 3, Pocket Pest. 8 ran.

BRAMHAM MOOR (Wetherby): Adj: 1, Knocklaur (S Brisby, 5-2); 2, Dan D'Or; 3, Amy's Mystery. 14 ran. Ladies: 1, Into The Trees (Miss F Tate, 5-1); 1, My Dream Maker (Mrs G B Watford, 5-1 fav); 3, Air Mark. 14 ran. Open: 1, Courageous Owl (G Musgrave, 14-1); 2, Golden Asset; 3, Glen Lochen. 13 ran. Rest: 1, Bright Hour (Mrs A Farrell, 5-1); 2, Dumfline; 3, Busky Raider. 15 ran. Rest II: 1, Jolly Junior (R Tate, 7-2);

Secret Haunt to give Cumani ideal start

SECRET Haunt, Luca Cumani's first runner of the season, can get the Newmarket trainer off to a perfect start by landing the Slip Anchor Stakes at Nottingham today.

With such as Suomi, Island Universe and Crystal Gazing to represent him in the top three-year-old races, Cumani has plenty to look forward to in the coming months and Secret Haunt is one of a strong Bedford House second division.

The Secreto colt overcame his inexperience to beat Stop Press by a neck in a 16-runner Redcar maiden last October and the runner-up franked the form with a clear-cut success at Beverley on Saturday.

Secret Haunt is reported to have been working well and, significantly, is Cumani's only entry besides Suomi, the new Derby favourite, for the group three Thresher Classic Trial at Sandown on Saturday week.

Henry Cecil would obviously like to win the race named after his 1985 Derby winner and Jura, the Warren Place representative, showed a deal of promise when second to Surrealist at Sandown in September. However, the fact that he is not among Cecil's 13 Derby entries suggests he may be some way short of the stable's best.

Cecil will be doubly keen to win the Oh So Sharp Stakes, which honours his 1985 Triple Crown winning filly, as Pepina is his first runner for Khaled Abdulla. This unraced daughter of Nijinsky has been entered for the Gold Seal Oaks so is clearly held in some regard.

Elsewhere at Nottingham, I like the look of Athenian King in the first division of the Felstead Claiming Stakes. Colin Tinkler's colt finished fourth to Love Returned on his reappearance in a fair conditions race at Carlisle last month and faces a much simpler task now.

The second leg of the claiming race should fall to Doublova, trained by Jack Berry, who can initiate a double with Kempton third Another Episode in the Aboyeur Selling Stakes.

The Cockerham trainer also holds a strong hand at Edinburgh where Snowgirl (2.0) and Nifty Fifty (2.30) have clear chances to open their accounts.

Berry sends Sizzling Saga on the long haul south to Folkestone for the Privy Councillor Stakes but preference here is for Poets Cove, whose good form last season included a third to Mujadil and Sir Harry Hardman in a listed race at York in August.

My other principal fancy at the Kent course is Father Figure, who is napped to win the Gillingham Selling Handicap off 7st 13lb. Although without a win in his first season, Father Figure ran well in good maiden company, particularly when third to Alnaab at the main Goodwood meeting in August. Fly Away Soon, runner-up in that Goodwood race, was a 12-length winner on his reappearance.

Blinkered first time

NOTTINGHAM: 4.15 Ming Court. FOLKESTONE: 2.30 False Passport; 3.0 Billion Dollarbill; 5.30 Jinga. EDINBURGH: 2.30 Lady Runfast; 3.30 Wassyam, Dance Partout; 4.30 Young Bill.

NOTTINGHAM

MANDARIN
2.15 Steppey Lane. 2.45 Another Episode. 3.15 Secret Haunt. 3.45 Athenian King. 4.15 Doublova. 4.45 Peplum. 5.15 Katy's Lad.

THUNDERER
2.15 Platinum Royale. 2.45 Where's The Risk. 3.15 Jura. 3.45 Jewel Of The Nile. 4.15 Doublova. 4.45 Peplum. 5.15 State Of Affairs.

MICHAEL SEELY
3.15 Jura. 4.45 Peplum.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 5.15 Everyone A Gem.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.15 DOUBLOVA.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5f-6f, HIGH NUMBERS BEST SIS

2.15 CALL BOY HANDICAP (£3,059: 1m 6f) (20 runners)

1	(17)	63-0	PROVENCE 13 (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-10-6	D Holland (5)	88
2	(10)	12348/	TANCRED WALK 969 (D,F,G) (D Peachy) C Jackson 12-8-9	A Clark	—
3	(7)	431-	PLATINUM ROYALE 844 (F) (D Thompson) Mrs J Ramsden 4-9-8	M Hills	92
4	(13)	40-1131	STEPPEY LANE 19 (D,G,S) (Dr C Emmerson) W Haigh 9-8-7	Dean McKeown	93
5	(18)	0/32000-	PODRIDA 55J (D,F,G) (I W Racing Club) B Stevens 5-8-4	M Tebbutt	92
6	(11)	0-00000	MIGHTY GLOW 16J (V,CD,F) (Mrs A Rubins) C Tinkler 7-8-4	M Birch	89
7	(1)	158413-	GO SOUTH 38J (S,C,F,G,S) (R Joachim) J Jenkins 7-8-3	Pat Eddery	98
8	(3)	332222	BEAU QUEST 14 (B,F) (G Ferndon) R Hollinshead 4-8-0	S Perks	92
9	(4)	1202-05	LINK MARKET 25 (CD,F) (P Rawlin) M Ryan 5-8-13	W R Swinburn	96
10	(6)	14620-2	WHITE RIVER 14 (F) (C Thomas) D Haydn Jones 5-8-12	G Baxter	93
11	(20)	230600-	FRANCISCAN 9J (G) (E Smith) B Preece 4-8-11	K Darley	89
12	(14)	05126-0	COUTURE INNOVATORS 14 (D) (Couture Marketing Ltd) P Makin 4-8-9 T Sprake (5)		92
13	(16)	1361F/0	DEMOKOS 19 (D,F,G) (D Welsh) A Stringer 6-8-6		—
14	(19)	0600-00	GIVE IN 16J (S) (Mrs N Macauley) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-5	J Marshall (7)	89
15	(2)	55000-0	MOON REEF 6 (S) (P M Racing Partnership) C Broad 5-8-5	E Husband (7)	90
16	(8)	0100/60-	WELSHMAN 24J (S) (B Octon) M Blanshard 5-8-5	M Roberts	—
17	(12)	00406-	ISABEAU 14J (T Fryte) K Morgan 4-8-2	Dale Gibson	93
18	(15)	/00/0//	FINGERS CROSSED 161J (Mrs M Nichols) K Morgan 7-7-7	N Kennedy (5)	—
19	(9)	434464-	SPRING FORWARD 131J (F,G,S) (D) (G Whitaker) R Peacock 7-7-7		94
20	(5)	0/40/6-6	VALTAKI 14 (G) (J Salter) G Hunt 8-7-7	N Adams	—

Long handicap: Spring Forward 7-6, Valtaki 7-6.

BETTING: 4-1 Steppey Lane, 9-2 White River, 8-1 Go South, 7-1 Platinum Royale, 9-1 Beau Quest, 10-1 Couture Innovators, 12-1 Franciscan, Podrida, Provence, 16-1 others.

1990: MIGHTY GLOW 8-9-10 M Birch (7-1) C Tinkler 6 ran

FORM FOCUS

PROVENCE 9th of 15 to Moalish (levels) at Warwick (1m 5f, good). PLATINUM ROYALE 3rd of 15 to Aims (rec 56lb) 1¼l at Catterick (1m 4f, good to firm). STEPPEY LANE beat Come To Terms (gave 6lb) ¾l at Catterick (1m 5f, good to soft). GO SOUTH 3rd beaten 5l by Boulevard Girl (rec 15lb) at Lingfield (2m, standard). BEAU QUEST 2nd beaten 5l by Windbound Lass (rec 4lb) at Warwick (1m 5f, good). LINK MARKET 5th beaten 1¼l by Art Form (rec 11lb) at Southwell (1m 6f, standard). WHITE RIVER caught close home when 2nd beaten ½l by Majestic Image (rec 2lb) with COULTURE INNOVATORS (rec 1lb) 12th of 15 here (1m 6f, good).
Selection: WHITE RIVER

2.45 ABOYEUR SELLING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,790: 5f) (15 runners)

1	(5)	3	ANOTHER EPISODE 10 (BF) (Mrs J Berry) J Berry 8-11	J Murray	—
2	(13)		HEAVY METAL (P Savill) N Tinkler 8-11	K Darley	—
3	(14)	6	LEIGH CROFTER 14 (K Leadbeater) R Holder 8-11	J Williams	—
4	(4)		MISTER POLLY (C Thornton) C Thornton 8-11	J Sheedale	—
5	(1)		QUALITAIR MEMORY (P Bottomley) J Bottomley 8-11	B Raymond	—
6	(3)		VIS-A-VIS (C Shroot) R Hoad 8-11		—
7	(2)	2	WHERE'S THE RISK 14 (BF) (Rokdvale Ltd) G Lewis 8-11	Pat Eddery	—
8	(8)		FASTO (Mrs P Brown) K Ivory 8-6	N Adams	—
9	(11)		FORBOURNE (Mrs R Smith) R Guest 8-6	L Dettori	—
10	(7)	41	PENISCOLA STAR 3 (D,F) (A White) R Hollinshead 8-6	G Husband (5)	—
11	(6)	0	PINK'N BLACK 14 (Mrs B Blum) G Blum 8-6	A Shoults	—
12	(10)		ROCKY BAY (Miss K Harris) D Haydn Jones 8-6	G Baxter	—
13	(9)		SIZZLING ROSE (T Mills Ltd) W Carter 8-6	R Cochrane	—
14	(12)		TWO-SHOES (S Burrough) M Ball 8-6	M Hills	—
15	(15)		ZOOMAR (J Hamilton-Jones) B Palling 8-6	D Holland (5)	—

BETTING: 2-1 Where's The Risk, 9-4 Peniscola Star, 11-2 Another Episode, 8-1 Two-Shoes, 10-1 Leigh Crofter, 12-1 Heavy Metal, 14-1 Sizzling Rose, 16-1 others.

1990: LITTLE FLASHER 8-11 K Darley (8-15 fav) M W Easterby 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

ANOTHER EPISODE lost ground at start when 3rd beaten 6l by Miss Nosey Parker (rec 3lb) at Kempton (5f, good to soft). WHERE'S THE RISK 2nd beaten ¾l by Mighty-Q (levels) with PREMIER ENVELOPE (levels) 5th beaten 3l at Warwick (5f, good). PENISCOLA STAR beat Midweek Storm (gave 8lb) 2l at Beverley (5f, good to firm). TWO-SHOES (soled Feb 5) by Prince Sabo out of Disguise, a winner twice over 6f as a three-year-old.
Selection: PENISCOLA STAR

3.15 SLIP ANCHOR STAKES (3-Y-O colts: £3,730: 1m 50yd) (3 runners)

1	(2)	1-	SECRET HAUNT 180 (D,F) (G Selnaght) L Cumani 9-5	L Dettori	97
2	(3)	5	EWALD 14 (BF) (D Scallon) J S Wilson 9-0	M Roberts	—
3	(1)	2-	JURA 208 (Sir D Wills) H Cecil 9-0	S Cauthen	99

BETTING: 8-11 Jura, 5-4 Secret Haunt, 12-1 Ewald.

1990: NORTHERN HAL 9-0 W Carson (9-4) P Walwyn 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

SECRET HAUNT beat Stop Press (rec 5lb) nk at Redcar (1m, good to firm). EWALD 5th of 6 beaten 19½l by Mafia Boy (levels) at Newcastle (7f, heavy). JURA, has been working well, was caught close home when ¾l 2nd to Surrealist (levels), who went to finish 3rd beaten 3¾l by Generous in the Deerhurst, at Sandown (7f, good).
Selection: JURA

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
H Cecil	27	93	29.0	S Cauthen	46	183	25.1
L Cumani	9	42	21.4	Pat Eddery	45	193	23.3
C Horgan	4	24	16.7	M Birch	22	133	17.3
J Berry	11	72	15.3	W R Swinburn	30	175	17.0
C Tinkler	15	102	14.7	L Dettori	9	57	15.8
G Lewis	7	51	13.7	K Darley	10	88	11.4

Bokaro captures rich Italian prize

BOKARO justified Charlie Brooks's decision to send him to Milan on Saturday when he gained an impressive pillar-to-post success in the £41,341 Corsa Siepi di Milano at San Siro. Bokaro, ridden by Graham Bradley, beat last year's winner, Afical, by 12 lengths with Italy's leading jumper, Miocamen, ten lengths away third. Bokaro paid 17-10 on the Italian Tote.

3.45 FELSTEAD CLAIMING STAKES (Div I: 3-Y-O: £2,902: 6f) (18 runners)

1	(7)	232125	ABLE JET 28 (B,BF,F,S) (S Roots) Mrs N Macauley 9-10	J Marshall (7)	94
2	(14)	35155-4	ATHENIAN KING 16 (D,F) (M Yiapatos) C Tinkler 9-4	M Birch	93
3	(3)	011-801	FRIENDLY CLAIM 16 (D,F,G) (S Woodall) T Barron 9-4	Alex Greaves (3)	95
4	(4)	232210-	GORINSKY 184 (D,F,S) (W Robertson) J Berry 9-4	Pat Eddery	99
5	(6)	0-4	SPANIARDS CLOSE 14 (Avon Industries Ltd) P Makin 9-0	L Dettori	78
6	(1)	2	JEWEL OF THE NILE 7 (A Perry) D Morley 8-13	W R Swinburn	70
7	(10)	00-6	CHIEF'S BABU 6 (J Ali) B Hanbury 8-10	B Raymond	—
8	(5)	24300-6	DEBJANJO 16 (Brigdon Builders Ltd) J Jenkins 8-10	J Williams	87
9	(16)	64	PARTY'S OVER 14 (M Strong) M Britain 8-10	S Maloney (5)	80
10	(2)	03060-0	NASEBY 14 (North Cheshire Trading & Storage Ltd) D Haydn Jones 8-5	D Biggs (5)	72
11	(17)	050-05	PICK AND CHOOSE 20 (J Rowles) J Leigh 8-5	G Husband (5)	74
12	(8)	31805-1	UNVEILED 13 (F,G) (R Hodges) R Hodges 8-3	M Roberts	97
13	(13)	0202-54	STONELEIGH ABBEY 16 (G Ferndon) R Hollinshead 8-2	E Husband (5)	92
14	(11)		SCARLET PRINCESS (D Phillips) R Hodges 8-1		—
15	(15)	46000-8	BUD'S BET 13 (Mrs P Lewendon) L Holt 8-0	C Avery (7)	95
16	(9)	6000-	COMEDIE FLEUR 181 (Mrs B Matthews) J Balding 7-13	A Mackay	—
17	(18)	000000-	ZEPHYR FIRE 271 (G Thorpe) W Carter 7-12	Dale Gibson	—
18	(12)	03306-0	VITTORIA GLENN 18 (R Glenn) R Holder 7-7	N Adams	85

BETTING: 5-2 Unveiled, 4-1 Friendly Claim, 13-2 Athenian King, 8-1 Jewel Of The Nile, 12-1 Stoneleigh Abbey, 14-1 Gorinsky, Able Jet, Spaniards Close, 16-1 others.

1990: MAGIC FLAME 8-8 C Pollard (20-1) E Eldin 15 ran

FORM FOCUS

ABLE JET 5th beaten 7l by Realvift (rec 5lb) at Doncaster (7f, soft). ATHENIAN KING 4th beaten 5l by Love Returned (gave 6lb) at Carlisle (5f, good). FRIENDLY CLAIM beat Steady March (rec 14lb) 1¼l with STONELEIGH ABBEY (rec 16lb) 4th beaten 11¼l at Carlisle (5f, good). SPANIARDS CLOSE 4th beaten 6¼l by Bowden Boy (rec 2lb) at Nottingham (5f, good). JEWEL OF THE NILE 2nd beaten 10l by Tbeb (gave 8lb) at Newcastle (6f, soft). CHIEF'S BABU 6th beaten 21¼l by Perfey (levels) at Pontefract (1m, good to soft). UNVEILED beat Goodbye Maggie (gave 8lb) 5l with BUD'S BET (gave 2lb) 3rd beaten 5¾l at Warwick (7f, good).
Selection: FRIENDLY CLAIM

4.15 FELSTEAD CLAIMING STAKES (Div II: 3-Y-O: £2,880: 6f) (17 runners)

1	(14)	123125	PESIDANAMICH 13 (S,D,BF,S) (T Hepburn) T Barron 9-4	Alex Greaves (3)	93
2	(16)	0	OVERATTM 23 (Mrs P White) Mrs N Macauley 9-0	D Biggs (5)	—
3	(10)	020-136	ROCK BREAKER 14 (S) (R Thornhill) B McMahon 9-0	S Sanders (7)	89
4	(4)	112311-	DOUBLOVA 178 (D,F,S) (Moss Side Racing Group) J Berry 8-13	Pat Eddery	99
5	(11)	64-	NORTHERN RISING 180 (Miss B Duxbury) A Lee 8-10		—
6	(7)	00	TELEBRAPH TOUCH 14 (Racing Telegraph) M Britain 8-10	D Holland (5)	—
7	(2)		HARRY'S GOING (D Barker) R Hodges 8-5	M Roberts	—
8	(1)	00-	WAYPOST 188 (A Hide) A Hide 8-5	Dale Gibson	—
9	(3)	5-24535	CARESS 20 (F) (Edward Chalkins Bridgehead) Mrs N Macauley 8-5	Dean McKeown	—
10	(12)	250180-	PETITESSE 180 (D,F) (Mrs J Pearce) G Blum 8-3	A Shoults	—
11	(9)	4500-45	MISTER MAJOR 13 (B Kaay) L Holt 8-2	G Husband (5)	82
12	(17)	0-0	TR TOTO 14 (J Cullen) C Horgan 8-2	A Clark	—
13	(15)	0500-	PREPARE 187 (J Neville) R Holder 8-1	N Adams	94
14	(8)	006600-	GREEN'S MOLLON 188 (M Toulson) J Harris 7-11		76
15	(5)	00-2348	MING COURT 14 (V) (P Ang) B Dow 7-9	A Mackay	87
16	(13)	b	DARK ROOTS 20 (A Taylor) J Ringer 7-7	G Bardwell	—
17	(6)	600-	GODS GIFT 304 (D Ivory) K Ivory 7-7	N Kennedy (5)	—

BETTING: 2-1 Doublova, 5-2 Pesidanamich, 13-2 Rock Breaker, 12-1 Petitesse, Ming Court, 14-1 Prepare, Caress, 16-1 Mister Major, 20-1 others.

1990: NO CORRESPONDING DIVISION

FORM FOCUS

PESIDANAMICH 3rd beaten 5l by Laurel Queen (rec 10lb) at Warwick (7f, good). ROCK BREAKER 6th beaten over 6l by Zinbeq (rec 13lb) at Nottingham (5f, good). DOUBLOVA beat Dennaman (gave 2lb) 1½l at Catterick (6f, good). NORTHERN RISING 4th beaten 11l by Jet Pet (rec 12lb) at Hamilton (6f, soft). MISTER MAJOR 5th beaten 6½l by Laurel Queen (rec 1lb) at Warwick (7f, good).
Selection: DOUBLOVA

4.45 OH SO SHARP STAKES (3-Y-O fillies: £3,557: 1m 2f) (6 runners)

1	(6)	150-	SHADHA 192 (F) (Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum) A Stewart 9-0	M Roberts	91
2	(2)	102-2	SO ROMANTIC 16 (BF,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) G Wragg 9-0	S Cauthen	99
3	(5)	060-30	CONQUETE 14 (K Ulrich) C W Elsey 8-8	Dale Gibson	—
4	(3)		MIDIRINA (M Saberi) B Hanbury 8-8	B Raymond	—
5	(4)		PEACOCK FEATHER (Lord Carnarvon) Lord Huntingdon 8-8	W R Swinburn	—
6	(1)		PEPLUM (K Abdulla) H Cecil 8-8	Pat Eddery	—

BETTING: 5-4 Peplum, 2-1 So Romantic, 3-1 Shadha, 10-1 Midilina, 14-1 Conquete, 16-1 Peacock Feather.

1990: PETITE MOU 9-0 B Raymond (9-4) B Hanbury 2 ran

FORM FOCUS

SHADA 15th of 17 to Glenorthem (rec 22lb) at Goodwood (1m, good); earlier beat Tanga's Secret (levels) 1¼l at Yarmouth (6f, good to firm). SO ROMANTIC 2nd beaten ½l by Jolf's Princess (levels) at Kempton (1m, good). PEACOCK FEATHER by Bustino out of Wide Of The Mark, is a half-sister to a plating winner. PEPLUM by Nijinsky out of Chain Store and is half-sister to Al Bahathri, winner of the Irish 1,000 Guineas.
Selection: SO ROMANTIC

5.15 CORONACH HANDICAP (£3,238: 1m 2f) (23 runners)

1	(12)	004001-	SPRING TO THE TOP 208 (G) (G Jebre) J Payne 4-8-13	B Raymond	87
2	(6)	32520-0	BLAKE'S TREASURE 10 (P Blake) T Thomson Jones 4-8-12	S Cauthen	88
3	(11)	05/505-0	AL DAMOUR 14 (K Bell & Son Ltd) C Broad 4-8-12	S Keightley	96
4	(9)	5/660-	ACCESS CRUISE 308 (Miss D Williams) R Boss 4-8-10	A Cruz	90
5	(1)	44030-3	NDITA 21 (G,S) (S Bennett) R Hodges 5-8-7	M Roberts	90
6	(7)	613236-	MERTON MILL 57 (CD,F) (Lord Clinton) D Morley 4-8-6		94
7	(4)	10000-3	STATE OF AFFAIRS 14 (F) (T Sumner) C Horgan 4-8-6	A Clark	99
8	(17)	116-080	SHARQUIN 20 (D,F,G) (M Murphy) M Britain 4-8-5	S Maloney (5)	95
9	(10)	34050-3	BELAFONTE 11 (B Tregurtha) R Holder 4-8-5	J Williams	98
10	(5)	0053-	PRINCE BOLLINGER 320 (S Crown) D Arbuthnot 4-8-5	Dean McKeown	80
11	(23)	00583-1	EVERY ONE A GEM 18 (D,F) (G Green) M Ryan 4-8-5	W R Swinburn	91
12	(3)	14441/8	TENTER CLOSE 12 (D,F) (N Smith) M Hammond 5-8-5		—
13	(21)	40140-5	ROYAL DARTMOUTH 13 (C,F,S) (Axminster Carpets Ltd) B Millman 8-8-5	P D'Arcy	91
14	(18)	D-45	GOLD TRUST 28 (E Berdelet) P Makin 4-8-2	T Sprake (5)	95
15	(9)	440313-	ELADHAM 133J (D,F) (M Moore) M Hammond 5-8-2	Ron Hills (3)	90
16	(15)	231000-	NAZAMIAH 185 (D,F,S) (A Halsted) A Hide 5-8-1	M Tebbutt	85
17	(14)	555000-	SWIFT SILVER 180 (Mrs J Musson) W Musson 4-8-1	A Mackay	80
18	(20)	400-	SAVOY LADY 239 (T Bashford) M Bell 4-8-1	M Hills	80
19	(2)	5045-03	KATY'S LAD 18 (BF,F,S) (J Butler) B McMahon 4-9-0	L Dettori	94
20	(19)	0/05-	AMOOD POINT 161 (Mrs E Ambrose) J Etherington 4-9-0	K Darley	93
21	(16)	630000-	DODGER DICKINS 30J (C,F) (Dickins Ltd) R Hollinshead 4-8-12	G Husband (5)	87
22	(13)	241600-	ARBEE 14J (G,S) (G Whittaker) R Peacock 5-8-10	Pat Eddery	88
23	(22)	0606-03	BEAUMONT'S KEEP 12 (F) (K Wheldon) Mrs J Reavelen 5-8-8	D Holland (5)	89

BETTING: 13-2 Belafonte, 7-1 State Of Affairs, Every One A Gem, 8-1 Royal Dartmouth, Katy's Lad, 10-1 Beaumont's Keep, 12-1 Sharquin, Eladham, 14-1 Gold Trust, Ndita, Merton Mill, 16-1 others.

1990: TOUCHING STAR 5-10-0 R McGhin (8-1) F Jordan 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

SPRING TO THE TOP beat Anna Karietta (gave 5lb) hd at Sandown (7f, good). NDITA 3rd beaten 2l by Sam The Man (gave 8lb) at Folkestone (1m 2f, heavy). STATE OF AFFAIRS 3rd beaten 7l by Myfontaine (rec 11lb) at Warwick (1m 2f, good). BELAFONTE 3rd beaten 12l by Endoli (gave 5lb) at Brighton (1m 2f, good to firm). PRINCE BOLLINGER 3rd beaten 5½l by Our Ron (gave 11lb) at Brighton (1m 4f, hard). EVERY ONE A GEM beat Al Shany (rec 2lb) a nk at Brighton (1m 2f, good to firm). TENTER CLOSE 5th beaten 13½l by Stormy Praise (rec 15lb) at Hamilton (1m, soft). ROYAL DARTMOUTH 5th beaten 9½l by Just A Step (gave 5lb) with KATY'S LAD (rec 9lb) 3rd beaten 7½l at Warwick (7f, good). ELADHAM 3rd beaten 8½l by Photo Call (gave 2lb) at Redcar (1m 3f, firm). BEAUMONT'S KEEP 3rd beaten 8½l by Stormy Praise (rec 6lb) at Hamilton (1m, soft).
Selection: STATE OF AFFAIRS

EDINBURGH

MANDARIN
2.00 Snowgirl. 2.30 Nifty Fifty. 3.00 Grey Merlin. 3.30 Hieroglyphic. 4.00 Hartley. 4.30 Verdant Boy.

THUNDERER
2.00 Pallium. 2.30 Nifty Fifty. 3.00 Guest Right. 3.30 Hieroglyphic. 4.00 Escape Talk. 4.30 Gant Bleu.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.30 HIEROGLYPHIC (nap).

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (GOOD IN PLACES)
DRAW: 5F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.0 NORTH BERWICK MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,447: 5f) (10 runners)

1		33	ABU HANIFAH 16 N Callaghan 8-0	G Hind (5)	10
2		000-	HIGH PREMIUM 167 Mrs J Ramsden 8-0	P Burke	5
3		28-0	PALLIUM 12 M Naughton 8-0	K Fallon	8
4		00-	PLAYSAYYAF 194 B Gubby 8-0	J Quinn	4
5		23-4	CUIMZII MARTIN 28 M Prescott 8-0	G Duffield	9
6		-020	WANE'S SECRET 47 K McCauley 8-0	L Charnock	6
7		0033	HAMLET CROFT 47 (S) A Balley 8-0	Jalil Houston (7)	2
8		04-3	SNOWGIRL 16 J Berry 8-0	J Carroll	3
9			TONGUE TIED Mrs J Ramsden 8-0	A Munro	7
10			VERY BOLD P Evans 8-0	J Lowe	1

2-1 Abu Hanifah, 7-2 Snowgirl, 4-1 Quinzii Martin, 6-1 Pallium, 7-1 Hamlet Croft, 10-1 High Premium, 16-1 others.

2.30 CARBERRY MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,534: 5f) (10)

1			AIR SUPREMACY T Barron 8-8	V Halliday (7)	6
2			DON'T RUN ME OVER B Morgan 8-8	C Hodgson (5)	1
3			LIMEDALE LASS Mrs G Reveley 8-7	M A Giles	10
4			WESTGARTH K McCauley 8-6	L Charnock	4
5		3	PETOMANIA 19 M Britain 8-3	A Munro	9
6		2	NIFTY FIFTY 14 (BF) J Berry 8-1	J Carroll	3
7		8	FORTUNA 23 D Moffat 8-0	NON-RUNNER	2
8			SALLY TADPOLE J Hetherton 8-0	J Lowe	7
9			LOCH NUAL J Spearing 7-13	G Duffield	8
10		0	LADY RUNFAST 24 (S) T Fairhurst 7-12	J Fanning (5)	5

4-5 Nifty Fifty, 2-1 Petomania, 8-1 Air Supremacy, 12-1 others.

3.0 TENNENTS SPRING HANDICAP (£3,318: 1m 4f) (13)

1		039-	AL FROLIC 58J P Mitchell 4-10-0	J Quinn	12
2		1105	CRIBELLA 14 (D) P Calver 4-9-12	A Culhane	13
3		40-0	INVERTIEL 24 (C,F) Mrs G Reveley 7-9-11	J Lowe	3
4		45-0	SPOOF 25 M Hammond 4-9-4	J Carroll	8
5		0-00	BARON CORVO 8 (D,F,S) K McCauley 7-8-4	D Nicholls	7
6		600-	NEEDWOOD MUFFET 180 B Morgan 4-9-2	C Hodgson (5)	1
7		23-6	GLASTONDALE 12 (CD,F,G) T Barron 5-8-12	S Webster	11
8		45-0	ALPHA HELIX 19 (V,CD,F,G,S) J S Wilson 8-8-10	G Duffield	6
9		08-0	GREY MERLIN 12 A Hanlon 4-8-10	K Fallon	5
10		-536	KOVALEVSKIA 23 (CD,F,G,S) D Wilson 6-8-8	C Dwyer	4
11		-403	GUEST RIGHT 6 M Britain 4-8-3	A Munro	10
12		350-	KING WILLIAM 95J (CD,F) J Spearing 8-8-3	G Hind (3)	2
13		40/3	ASTURIAS 94 (S) A Stringer 8-8-0	J Fanning (5)	9

7-2 Guest Right, 4-1 Asturias, 9-2 Glastondale, 5-1 Cribella, 10-1 Invertiel, 12-1 Kovalevskia, 14-1 Alpha Helix, 16-1 others.

3.30 INVERESK MAIDEN STAKES (£2,404: 1m 4f) (8)

1	3	RUTLAND WATER 13 P Makin 4-9-12	A Munro	4
2		BELLEZZA 32J Denys Smith 4-9-7	D Nicholls	5
3	2-00	WISAYEM 3 (B) R Stubbs 4-9-7	E Guest	7
4	62-5	DANCE PARTOUT 11 (S) N Callaghan 3-8-4	G Duffield	2
5	-464	DANZIG LAD 28 M Naughton 3-8-4	K Fallon	6
6	3	HIEROGLYPHIC 11 J Gordon 3-8-4	G Hind (3)	8
7	00-	NEWARK ANTIQUEFAIR 155 B Morgan 3-8-4	C Hodgson (5)	1
8		COUSIN ELLY P Evans 3-7-13	J Lowe	8

Evens Hieroglyphic, 7-2 Rutland Water, 9-2 Dance Partout, 6-1 Danzig Lad, 8-1 Bellezza, 16-1 Newark Antiquefair, 20-1 others.

4.0 ABERLADY SELLING HANDICAP (£2,751: 1m) (16)

1		6030	BEECHWOOD COTTAGE 18 (B,D,F,G,S) A Bailey 8-10-0	Jalil Houston (7)	4
2		030-	YOUNG COMMANDER 14J (B,CD,F,G) B McLean 7-9-13	K Fallon	15
3		0-05	HARTLEY 14 (C,G) T Fairhurst 4-9-2	J Fanning (5)	6
4		03-0	KING CRACKER 18 M Hammond 4-8-1	J Carroll	8
5		3300	MR CHEEKYCHOPS 12 (S) M Britain 4-8-10	P Sedgwick	2
6		400-	NIKLAS ANGEL 130 (B,D,F,G) M Tompkins 5-8-7	C Hodgson (5)	10
7		55-0	SMALL DOUBLE 11 (C,G) N Callaghan 3-8-7		5
8		600-	SHARP N' EASY 176 R Stubbs 4-8-6	P Bowe (7)	12
9		300-	HIZEEM 166J (C,G) K McCauley 5-8-6	S Webster	3
10		00-0	MELTING TEARS 12 (C,G) J S Wilson 3-8-2	G Duffield	7
11		0000	BLUE GRIT 4 (S) M Dods 5-8-1	L Charnock	15
12		0-40	SHARLIE'S WIMPY 47 (F,G) W Pearce 12-8-1	G Hind (3)	13
13		300-	SMOOTH FINISH 238 A Hanlon 4-8-0	J Quinn	9
14		00-8	MRS SKINNER 45 Mrs P Barker 4-7-13	A Munro	14
15		000	WALTON MELODY 45 D Chapman 4-7-12	S Wood (5)	11
16		400-	ESCAPE TALK 174 (F) Mrs J Ramsden 4-7-12	J Lowe	1

7-2 Hartley, 4-1 Small Double, 6-1 Escape Talk, 7-1 Melting Tears, 8-1 King Cracker, 10-1 Beechwood Cottage, 12-1 others.

4.30 DALMENY HANDICAP (£2,880: 7f) (14)

1		100-	AIDD 186 (S) D Topley 5-10-0	J Carroll	14
2		00-0	CEE-JAY-AY 9 (D,F) J Berry 4-9-13	S Haworth (7)	4
3		2-30	SOLOMONS NEPHEW 24 (F) J Scargill 4-9-5		1
4		2203	VERDANT BOY 75 (D,F,G) K McCauley 8-8-3	D Nicholls	2
5		00-0	SAINT BLEU 8 B Mactaggart 4-8-2	A Culhane	6
6		005-	MISS PINOCCHIO 210 (F,G) T Fairhurst 4-8-0	J Fanning (5)	10
7		4040	SAY YOU WILL 19 (V,D,F,S) M Naughton 7-8-6	K Fallon	5
8		016-	LEAVE IT TO LIB 177 (CD,F) P Calver 4-8-6	J Tate (7)	11
9		0-00	REG ROSEN 14 (F) J Wilson 5-8-5	G Duffield	9
10		460-	BLUE MISCHIEF 181 (F) J Haldane 5-8-3	S Webster	7
11		1140	SOBERING THOUGHTS 3 (B,BF) D Chapman 5-8-3	S Wood (3)	3
12		000-	YOUNG BILL 37J (S) Mrs J Ramsden

Liverpool again turn logic on its head

Leeds United..... 4
Liverpool..... 5

By IAN ROSS

AS AN extraordinary match neared its climax, it became clear why Liverpool are unlikely to retain the League championship this season. With a little over three minutes remaining, Liverpool, who had led by four goals at the interval, were in what can only be described as a blind panic as they fought to secure a victory which possibly does nothing more than delay Arsenal's installation as the new champions.

If the excitement of a memorable occasion is stripped away, it was a rather pitiful sight. Liverpool, the side which Howard Wilkinson, the Leeds manager, had hailed as the best in the world over the past 25 years shortly before kick-off, had again fallen victim to its self-inflicted frailties.

The final scoreline, and Liverpool's slender margin of victory, was at one stage inconceivable as a period of vintage Liverpool football came to a close in the 28th minute when Barnes exchanged passes with Rush and sprinted clear to score his side's fourth goal. But perhaps it had all been too easy. Having survived Leeds's initial pressure, Liverpool ruthlessly exposed the shortcomings of the home side's inflexible offside trap to move forward at will.

Houghton and Speedie profited from United's reluctance to guard their back post while, in between those two goals, Molby converted a penalty, awarded after Rush had been upended by Lukic.

"We were too cavalier in the first half," Wilkinson said. "I tried to impress on my players that there is a big difference between achieving the fastest lap time and winning the grand prix itself."

Wilkinson's plea for a more restrained and thoughtful approach did not fall on deaf ears. Leeds were a revelation after the interval, maintaining a high level of patience despite their failure to reduce the arrears until the 68th minute, when Chapman scooped home a loose ball.

An opportunist goal by Shutt after 77 minutes further undermined rapidly waning confidence, but it was followed, 60 seconds later, by Barnes's second goal. It was the afternoon's crucial moment, for it came at a time when the game's balance of power had shifted so dramatically that anything seemed possible.

Astonishingly, Leeds refused to concede that their first-half fallibility had condemned them to defeat and they still sought to provide an improbable finale. Chapman completed a fine treble by heading home superb Batty and Strachan crosses, but it was to no avail.

A stirring fixture was, however, tinged with a measure of controversy when Wilkinson vehemently defended a disallowed Chapman effort in the 76th minute, a seemingly legitimate near-post header. "The referee was hypersensitive because Lee clearly won the ball fairly," Wilkinson said. The Leeds manager did have a point.

LEEDS UNITED: J Lukic; M Sterland, M Whitlow, D Batty, C Fairclough, C Whyte, G Strachan, C Shutt, L Chapman, G McAllister, G Speed.

LIVERPOOL: M Hooper; G Hysen, S Staunton, S Nicol, J Molby, D Burrows, P Beardsley, R Houghton, I Rush, J Barnes, D Speedie
Referee: K Redfern

MARC ASPLAND



Danger: high-flying man at work. Foster, of West Ham, engages in aerobatics over the head of Charles

Forest path paved with goals

Nottingham Forest..... 4
West Ham United..... 0

By CLIVE WHITE

WEST Ham United supporters will swear blind that the controversial sending off of Tony Gale, their central defender, after 26 minutes of yesterday's FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park cost them a Wembley final. No one could argue differently. All that one could state, with any confidence, was that in what was left of the match and against what was left of West Ham, Forest were emphatic winners.

Forest played enough of the measured, composed type of football which has been their hallmark down the years, largely in the second half, to refute any suggestion that they were lucky winners. After 25 attempts as a manager to reach the final of the one major domestic trophy to elude him, Brian Clough, the Forest manager, could rightly insist that luck had nothing to do with it.

But he would have been advised not to have imparted that opinion to the 20,000-odd West Ham supporters who, having screamed their abuse at Keith Hackett, the referee, for his odd interpretation of the "professional foul" rule, gave their team unbelievable support which grew rather than diminished during the final 20 minutes when defeat steadily became more inevitable.

Sadly, the most pathetic aspect of Gale's dismissal for a push on Gary Crosby was that the Forest player would probably never have scored since he was on his unfavoured left foot at the time of the infringement.

Not that Hackett was to know that. What was highly debatable, though, was whether a player running diagonally across goal more than 20 yards out was in a goal-scoring position when fouled.

Within three minutes of Gale's departure, Parris had flashed a shot against a Forest upright which lost rather than gained from a faint deflection off Parker. West Ham reorganised, with Potts moving across to centre back and Parris filling in at right back.

Forest slowly began to benefit from their numerical advantage, taking the lead four minutes into the second half. Nigel Clough, not for the last time, was to prove the source as he fed Keane. The Irishman, who was a constant threat to the opposition, dug the ball out from under his feet to provide Crosby with a gaping goal at which to aim and his finish was not found wanting.

Again West Ham responded valiantly as Slater cut inside to threaten Forest for the only time with a hammer blow against the inside of a post. Forest were unperturbed, increasing their lead in the 58th minute when Keane finished off a neat one-two with Glover. Forest were cutting through West Ham almost at will through the middle but it was from a set-piece that they claimed their third goal.

A enormous throw-in from Crosby was missed by Foster but not by Clough, who played it conveniently into the path of Pearce for the Forest captain to score from close range. There was little or nothing left of West Ham's decimated and deflated ranks when Charles broke through to score a fourth after another one-two with Glover.

At Villa Park. Att: 40,041. Ref: K Hackett.
Previous FA Cup meetings: West Ham W2.

HT: 0-0.	NOTTM FOREST 4	WEST HAM 0
Scorers:	Crosby 50, Keane 59, Pearce 71, Charles 81	-
Dismissals:	-	Gale 27
Cautions:	Keane 74	-
Subs:	Keane 88 (Laws)	Quinn 74 (Morley), Stewart 80 (Allen)

	NOTTM FOREST		WEST HAM	
Shots (on target/total)	7	12	4	10
Corners (left/right)	1	3	3	2
Crosses (left/right)	5	8	12	8
Free kicks/pens conceded	12	-	10	-
Offsides		1		4
Possession (gained/lost)	38	92	35	92

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2)

Player	Goal attempt	Crosses L	Crosses R	Fouls By	Fouls On
Crossley	-	-	-	-	1
Charles	-	-	2	1	1
Pearce	1	2	-	-	1
Walker	-	-	-	-	1
Chettle	-	-	-	3	1
Parker	2	1	1	1	1
Crosby	1	-	4	-	3
Keane	5	-	1	2	-
Clough	2	-	-	1	1
Glover	-	-	-	3	-
Wilson	-	2	1	1	-
Laws	1	-	-	-	-

Unused: Jenson.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-5-1)

Player	Goal attempt	Crosses L	Crosses R	Fouls By	Fouls On
Miklosko	-	-	-	-	-
Potts	-	-	1	-	-
Parris	3	4	2	-	2
Gale	-	-	-	-	-
Foster	-	-	-	1	-
Hughton	-	-	-	2	1
Bishop	1	5	1	1	4
Slater	1	-	-	-	1
Allen	2	-	-	3	-
Keen	1	1	4	-	-
Morley	1	1	4	1	3
Quinn	1	2	-	-	1
Stewart	-	-	-	1	-

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The race for second division play-off places

Lumsden remains calm prior to storm

Bristol City..... 1
Barnsley..... 0

By PETER ROBINSON

PLAY-OFFS are all about pressure, pressure that mounts remorselessly as first they approach and then confront teams seeking promotion through football's back door. The stakes appear almost impossibly high: a year of often heavy investment, of dogged effort and high expectation ride on a grand version of Russian roulette. Strain is inevitable.

Jimmy Lumsden has his own answer to the play-off pressure: he pretends there is none. The dapper manager of Bristol City has set his team a target of a top-ten finish this season, and gamely ignores the test of nerve looming ahead of him.

Many more results like this, however, and Lumsden will have to face reality. The end-of-season shoot-out is approaching Ashton Gate.

In the mean time, Lumsden's method seems to be working. A single goal may have separated Bristol from Barnsley, but the contrast between his youthful, carefree City side and their vexed visitors was absolute. Bristol were, in short, good value for their victory.

Barnsley were merely a disappointment. For a side that recently gave West Ham United a fright, they played a strangely negative game, content to sit back and strike on the break if given the chance.

It was a tactic doomed from the start. Against the hugely impressive, if inexperienced, central defenders, Mardon and Bryant, aged 21 and 20 respectively, Barnsley's lack of pace was thoroughly exposed, and with Agnew subdued in midfield they could do little but defend.

Poor finishing and brave goalkeeping from Baker denied Bristol the three or four goals they deserved. They were restricted to Newman's bizarre 27th-minute strike from an indirect free-kick *inside* Barnsley's six-yard box, driven low through a largely helpless defensive wall.

BRISTOL CITY: A Leaning; A Llewellyn, M Scott, A May, M Bryant, P Mardon, G Shelton, R Newman, R Taylor, W Allison, J Bent.

BARNSLEY: C Baker; J Dobbin (sub: J Deehan), G Taggart (sub: M Robinson), G Fleming, M Smith, C Tiler, B O'Connell, A Rammell, A Saville, S Agnew, O Archdeacon.

Referee: D Frampton.

Williams strikes as Wednesday stake their claim

Sheffield Wednesday..... 2
Middlesbrough..... 0

By PETER BALL

THE premier league may still be a glint in Graham Kelly's eye, but Sheffield Wednesday are losing no time in presenting their credentials. On Saturday they attracted the second biggest crowd of the day in England to see them win a tight, competitive fixture with two late goals.

It could hardly have been a better start to nine crucial days for the South Yorkshire club. With all their promotion rivals dropping points, they are again in a healthy position, and with an all-ticket match at Newcastle on Wednesday, followed by the Rumbelows Cup final on Sunday, they are back on the brink of the big time.

At lunchtime on Saturday, the chairman, David Richards, went further, insisting that super-league quality football was already on offer at Hillsborough. Not on Saturday, though. "I've seen better football at Bramall Lane," one cynic said at half-time.

Apart from admiring the handling of Dibble and the composure of Mowbray in Middlesbrough's determined resistance, what the watching Alex Ferguson made of it all was anybody's guess. The Manchester United manager left ten minutes from the end, and as a result missed all the fun.

Williams's two goals might have given him cause for thought. Until then, with Wednesday's best player, the long-striding Palmer, suspended for the final, there had been little to suggest that Wednesday could trouble United.

In the end, it was speed which decided things, Palmer's flick sending Williams clear to beat Dibble, and, a minute later, King putting Williams free just inside Middlesbrough's half. Mowbray's pursuit was forlorn and the centre half only got close enough to try and haul Williams back. To his credit, Williams fought his way free, and, instead of stopping play, the referee allowed him to round Dibble for the second goal.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY: C Turner; R Nilsson, P King, C Palmer, V Anderson, N Pearson, J Hirtes (sub: S MacKenzie), J Sheridan, D Hirst, P Williams, N Worthington.
MIDDLESBROUGH: A Dibble; G Parkinson, J Phillips, A Mowbray, S Coleman, J Hendrie (sub: B Stewart), M Russell, M Proctor, I Baird, R Mustoe, S Pigley.
Referee: L R Dilkes.

Warnock enjoys the last laugh

Brighton..... 0
Notts County..... 0

By KEITH PIKE

NEIL Warnock, a former chiropodist who now manages Notts County, can add "full-time humorist" to his curriculum vitae. Warnock has enlivened post-match press conferences all season. On Saturday, he was considerately more entertaining than the match itself.

Of Don O'Riordan, his centre half, Warnock said: "I only played him because he persuaded me to. He suffered concussion in our match at Barnsley . . . but then, everybody suffers concussion when they play at Barnsley."

And of Dave Regis, the substitute who squandered a marvellous opening in the 68th minute, Warnock offered: "We only paid Barnet £25,000 for him. At those prices, you don't get vision thrown in as well."

Brighton's manager, Barry Lloyd, launched an unexpected and unwarranted attack on County's tactics. He bemoaned "the long-ball game" and compared County with Wimbledon, but was as much off-target as most of the shooting.

Lloyd's frustrations were perhaps understandable. Brighton were buoyed up by their fine midweek victory over West Ham and if Wilkins's fifth-minute shot had gone in rather than hit the foot of a post, they might have flourished. As it was, misplaced passes, nervy finishing, a difficult surface and blustery wind, combined to ruin the spectacle.

BRIGHTON: P Digweed; J Crumplin, S Gatting, D Wilkins, C Pates, G Chivers, M Barham, J Byrne, M Small, R Codner, C Walker.
NOTTS COUNTY: S Cherry; Chris Short, A Pate, Craig Short, C Palmer, D O'Riordan, D Thomas, P Turner, K Bartlett (sub: D Regis), M Draper, T Johnson.
Referee: K Bridge.

Millwall's path is blocked

Millwall..... 1
Port Vale..... 2

By DENNIS SIGNY

IF STEWART Houston, George Graham's lieutenant at Highbury, was at The Den on Saturday in search of first-division quality, he must have been disappointed.

He had left by the time Darren Beckford's winning goal, in the 89th minute, ended Millwall's unbeaten sequence of nine matches and almost certainly restricted their promotion ambitions to the play-off roune.

Port Vale, with five regulars injured, fielded a makeshift defence. Even so, they confined Teddy Sheringham, the League's leading scorer, to three strikes on goal. Alan Webb, playing his second game in 18 months after breaking a leg, won special praise from his manager, John Rudge.

Bruce Rioch, the Millwall manager, could scarcely disguise his disappointment at defeat with so much having been at stake. "Not a good performance," he said. "There wasn't a spark there today."

When Parkin headed on Ray Walker's free-kick after 18 minutes, Branagan, the Millwall goalkeeper, and Van der Laan collided as they went for the ball. Branagan, who later received treatment for a cut forehead, stayed down, leaving Van der Laan to score.

Three minutes later, though, Millwall were level from a powerful header by David Thompson following a corner from Paul Stephenson.

As the game seemed to be petering out Branagan and Keith Stevens made a mess of dealing with Parkin's free kick and left Beckford with the formality of scoring his 24th goal of the season.

MILLWALL: K Branagan; K Stevens, I Dawes, D Thompson, K Cunningham, A McLeary (sub: A Rae), P Stephenson, J Goodman (sub: K O'Callaghan), E Sheringham, G Waddock, P Carr.
PORT VALE: M Grew; S Mills, N Pleinaar (sub: D Hughes), R Walker, T Parkin, A Webb, K Kent, R Earle, R Van der Laan, D Beckford, A Porter.
Referee: M J Bodenham.

WEEKEND FOOTBALL RESULTS AND TABLES

FA Cup
Semi-finals

ARSENAL (1) 1 TOTTENHAM (2) 3
Smith 44 — Gascoigne 5, Lineker 10 76
77,893
(at Wembley)

NOTTM FOR (0) 4 WEST HAM (0) 0
Crosby 49 Keane 58 Pearce 70 Charles 80 — 40,041
(at Villa Park)

Barclays League
First division

COVENTRY (0) 3 DERBY (0) 0
Gallacher 53 59, Woods 72 — 11,961
C PALACE (0) 0 A VILLA (0) 0
16,331
EVERTON (1) 2 CHELSEA (0) 2
Cottee 5 Ebbrell 52 — Dixon 71 81
19,526
LEEDS UTD (0) 4 LIVERPOOL (4) 5
Chapman 66 81 88, Shutt 77 — Houghton 11, Molby 16 (pen), Speedie 25, Barnes 28 79
31,460
LUTON (0) 0 WIMBLEDON (0) 1
8,219 — Fashanu 78
QPR (1) 1 SHEFF UTD (1) 2
Allen 41 — Deane 18, Bradshaw 85
13,601
SOTON (1) 3 SUNDERLAND (1) 1
Rod Wallace 44, Le Tissier 81 (pen), Shearer 85 — Hauser 24
16,812

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
*Arsenal	35	12	3	0	38	6	9	5	3	23	9	72
Liverpool	33	11	3	2	34	13	9	4	4	32	21	67
C Palace	35	9	5	2	22	17	8	3	6	21	21	59
Leeds Utd	33	10	2	5	30	20	6	5	5	18	16	56
Tottm Hot	33	9	3	3	29	16	6	5	6	23	22	56
Man City	35	10	3	4	30	22	4	7	6	22	24	52
Wimbledon	34	8	6	3	23	15	5	5	6	22	22	51
Southampton	33	8	7	2	31	16	5	3	8	17	22	49
Coventry	35	10	5	3	30	16	1	6	11	10	25	42
Everton	35	8	5	5	25	15	3	4	8	17	25	42
Chelsea	34	9	6	3	29	23	2	3	11	20	34	42
QPR	34	7	4	5	24	21	4	5	7	17	25	42
Norwich	32	8	5	3	25	20	4	3	8	12	20	42
Notts For	35	7	4	4	24	17	3	7	8	22	28	41
Luton	35	8	6	4	28	20	3	3	12	23	41	41
Sheff Utd	34	8	2	7	21	20	4	3	10	12	28	41
A Villa	33	6	6	3	23	16	3	5	11	15	28	37
Oxford	35	5	5	6	19	18	3	2	13	15	42	36
Sunderland	34	6	4	7	15	18	1	4	12	10	40	29
Derby Co	32	2	2	8	17	30	2	1	13	18	32	21

* 2points deducted
† 1point deducted

FA TROPHY: Semi-finals: Second leg: Altrincham 0, Wycombe 2 (Wycombe win 4-2 on aggregate); Witton 4, Kidderminster 3 (each 4-4 on aggregate; replay at Stafford Rangers tomorrow).
VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Aylesbury 2, Marlow 0; Barking 0, Carshalton 2; Dagenham 1, Redbridge Forest 1; Enfield 2, Basingstoke 0; Harrow 0, Woking 1; Hendon 0, Grays 1; Kingstonian 4, Bognor 1; Leyton-Wingate 2, Windsor and Eton 0; Staines 2, Hayes 3; Wivenhoe 0, Bishop's Stortford 4; Wokingham 1, St Albans 4. First division: Bromley 1, Tooting and Mitcham 1; Chalfont St Peter 0, Whyteleafe 1; Croydon 1, Lewes 0; Haybridge Swifts 0, Chesham 2; Hitchin 1, Boreham Wood 2; Metropolitan Police 4, Southwick 0; Molesey 0, Aveley 1; Walton and Hersham 2, Dulwich 2; Wembley 1, Uxbridge 1; Worthing 0, Harlow 3; Yeading 1, Dorking 0. Second division north: Barton 5, Basildon 0; Berkhamsted 7, Saffron Walden 1; Billericay 3, Kingsbury 1; Clapton 0, Stevenage Borough 5; Hertford 0, Collier Row 2; Hornchurch 3, Edgware 3; Purfleet 1, Witham 0; Royston 0, Hemel Hempstead 3; Tilbury 1, Vauxhall Motors 1; Tring 1, Ware 0. Second division south: Banstead Athletic 0, Newbury 2; Bracknell 3, Camberley 0; Cove 0, Egham 4; Eastbourne 1, Ruislip Manor 2; Epsom and Ewell 2, Leatherhead 0; Feltham 2, Southall 0; Flackwell Heath 2, Herefield 3; Hungerford 1, Chertsey 1; Maidenhead 2, Horsham 0; Malden Vale 2, Hampton 1; Petersfield 0, Abingdon 3.

Second division

BLACKBURN (2) 2 CHARLTON (1) 2
Atkins 3, Livingstone 12 — Wilson 21, Lesbum 89
6,714
BRIGHTON (0) 0 NOTTS CO (0) 0
9,884
BRISTOL C (1) 1 BARNSLEY (0) 0
Newman 26 — 12,081
HULL (0) 0 PORTSMTH (0) 2
4,871 — Russell 76, Kuhl 81 (pen)
IPSWICH (1) 1 OXFORD (1) 1
Kiwomya 26 — Simpson 16
9,135
MILLWALL (1) 1 PORT VALE (1) 2
Thompson 24 — Van der Laan 19, Beckford 89
10,980
NEWCASTLE (2) 3 OLDHAM (0) 2
Peacock 7, Hunt 40, Brock 55 — Holden 77, Marshall 84
PLYMOUTH (2) 3 SWINDON (1) 3
Morrison 14, Sakiman 44, Vivesah 81 (og) — Hazard 30, Shearer 56 64
SHEFF WED (0) 2 MIDDLSBRO (0) 0
Williams 84 86 — 30,556
WATFORD (1) 3 WOLVES (0) 1
Wilkinson 19 66 89 — Cook 77 (pen)
12,014
WBA (1) 2 LEICESTER (1) 1
White 44, Goodman 89 — Russell 2
13,991

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	APts
West Ham	39	13	5	1	39	15	8	6	4	16	12	76
Oldham	40	14	5	1	46	16	7	7	6	25	25	75
Sheff Wed	39	9	9	1	35	20	10	5	5	34	23	71
Millwall	41	16	5	0	49	25	5	8	8	21	31	66
Brighton	40	11	4	5	35	25	8	3	9	25	26	64
Middlesbro	41	10	4	7	32	17	8	5	7	30	25	63
Bristol C	40	14	4	3	42	23	4	2	13	16	35	60
Notts Co	39	10	4	5	34	22	6	7	7	25	34	59
Barnsley	39	12	5	3	36	13	4	5	10	23	28	58
Oxford	41	9	8	3	33	27	3	10	8	25	36	54
Bristol R	41	13	5	3	28	19	4	6	10	25	32	54
Wolves	41	10	5	6	41	32	2	12	7	17	25	53
Watford	41	11	3	7	32	23	4	5	11	22	33	53
Port Vale	41	11	3	7	32	23	4	5	11	22	33	53
Ipswich	39	7	8	4	28	23	4	9	7	24	33	50
Portsmth	41	8	5	8	28	25	4	5	12	22	38	46
Plymouth	41	9	10	2	28	15	2	5	12	19	42	46
Blackburn	41	7	8	5	22	23	5	4	11	22	33	48
Swindon	41	7	8	7	24	24	3	8	9	21	37	44
WBA	41	7	8	5	24	19	3	4	13	20	37	42
Leicester	41	10	4	7	30	32	2	3	15	15	42	42
Watford	46	4	7	9	19	27	8	7	8	29	25	41
Hull	41	5	5	6	22	20	3	4	14	20	52	37

Third division

BOURNMTH (1) 1 BOLTON (0) 0
Cooke 11 — 7,159
BIRMINGHAM (0) 0 MANSFIELD (0) 0
7,635
BURY (0) 0 BRADFORD (0) 0
5,265
CAMBRIDGE (1) 1 PRESTON (0) 1
Dublin 7 — Joyce 47
6,282
CREWE (0) 1 EXETER (0) 1
Murphy 58 — Rowbotham 75
3,058
FULHAM (0) 0 GRIMSBY (0) 0
5,464
READING (1) 2 CHESTER (1) 2
Conroy 21, Gooding 77 — Painter 9, Bishop 60
2,707
ROTHERHM (2) 2 SWANSEA (0) 3
Duffield 10 (pen), Richardson 13 — Penney 66, Davey 72 88
3,510
SHRWSBRY (0) 1 BRENTFORD (0) 1
Smith 85 — Ratcliffe 79
2,841
STOKE (1) 1 L ORIENT (0) 2
Beeston 28 — Fulcher 50, Cooper 66 70
7,257
WRSAL (0) 1 HUDDRSFLD (1) 1
Worthington 85 — Roberts 11
4,842

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	APts
Scotland	40	13	4	2	33	10	11	1	8	30	27	77
Grimsby	41	15	2	3	48	11	7	7	7	22	21	76
Bolton	41	12	8	4	31	18	8	5	7	24	26	76
Bury	42	13	5	3	36	24	8	7	6	26	25	69
Tranmere	41	11	5	4	34	18	9	4	8	32	29	69
Huddersfld	42	13	3	5	36	20	9	6	7	19	23	66
Cambridge	37	16	5	4	31	21	3	6	9	27	19	64
Darlington	40	13	6	2	34	19	4	7	9	19	31	58
Hereford	39	11	4	5	29	18	5	6	9	22	23	61
Wigan	40	12	3	5	35	19	5	5	10	27	31	59
Bristol	39	11	3	7	34	22	5	7	7	25	24	58
Wellington	41	7	9	4	18	17	7	7	7	23	25	58
Stoke	41	9	6	7	24	20	7	5	8	22	24	59
L Orient	39	14	1	5	33	16	4	3	11	15	33	58
Exeter	41	11	5	5	31	13	4	5	11	18	33	56
Reading	39	8	5	7	30	24	5	3	11	16	29	53
Preston	40	10	5	5	36	25	4	4	11	19	32	51
Chester	39	8	2	9	29	22	4	6	10	27	44	44
Swansea	39	7	5	8	27	27	5	2	13	24	33	43
Fulham	40	8	5	6	25	20	3	7	13	16	32	37
Mansfield	40	5	6	9	19	25	3	5	12	19	32	35
Shrewsbury	38	5	7	7	19	19	3	3	13	20	42	34
Crewe	39	4	8	6	28	25	3	2	15	23	45	32
Rotherham	40	4	9	6	25	34	3	2	14	14	43	32

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bangor 1, Fridley 0; Bishop Auckland 1, Horwich 2; Fleetwood 1, Shepshed 1; Gainsborough 2, Morecambe 2; Hyde 0, Marine 0; Matlock 3, Chorley 1; Southport 3, Buxton 1; Stalybridge 1, Mossley 0. First division: Caernarfon 1, Emley 0; Curzon Ashton 0, Irlam 2; Pensley Celtic 0, Accrington Stanley 3; Harrogate 4, Newtown 1; Radcliffe Borough 1, Eastwood Town 2; Rossendale 5, Bridlington Town 1; Whitley Bay 2, Rhyl 2; Workington 2, Workisop 1.
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone 3, Gravesend 4; Bashley 0, Crawley 1; Bromsgrove 1, Chelmsford 0; Dartford 3, Halesowen 3; Farnborough 0, Cambridge City 0; Gloucester 4, Dover 1; Poole 1, Moor Green 0; VS Rugby 3, Worcester 0; Waterlooville 1, Rushden 1; Wealdstone 0, Burton 0. Midland division: Alvechurch 2, Spalding 1; Barry 1, Tamworth 0; Bilston 2, Stourbridge 3; Bridgnorth 1, RC Warwick 2; Grantham 1, Bedworth 2; Hednesford 3, Nuneaton Borough 2; Hinckley 0, Willenhall 2; Leicester Utd 0, Redditch 0; Stroud 0, King's Lynn 2; Sutton Coldfield 0, Newport AFC 2. Southern division: Andover 2, Margate 1; Ashford 1, Beldock 1; Burnham 2, Bury 1; Canterbury 3, Salisbury 1; Corinthian 0, Buckingham 0; Gosport Borough 2, Erith and Belvedere 0; Newport IOW 0, Hythe 1; Sudbury 0, Trowbridge 1; Witney 1, Hastings 1; Yate 2, Fareham 0.
OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Portsmouth 1, Reading 0; Wimbledon 3, Brighton 1.
SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Arda 0, Ballymena 0; Coleraine 2, Ballyclare Comrades 1; Crusaders 4, Omagh Town 1; Distillery 1, Bangor 3; Glenavon 2, Portadown 1; Glentoran 2, Carrick 1; Larne 0, Linfield 1; Newry 0, Cliftonville 0.
SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: Civil Service 2, Nat West Bank 1; Midland Bank 2, Winchmore Hill 1; Old Salesians 2, Old Esthonians 2; Old Stationers 2, West Wickham 3; Barclays Bank 1, Old Lyonians 1; Ibis 0, Morden 4; Old Bromleians 7, South Bank Polytechnic 0; Alexandra Park 3, Lloyds Bank 0; Lensbury 3, Kew Association 2; Reigate Priory 0, Brentham 0; Royal Bank Scotland 3, Cusco 2.
WEEKLY WYNNER LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 3, Ponteland Col 1; Dawdey Utd 0, Guiseley 1; Maltby MW 2, Consett Albion 1; Consett Town 1, North Shields 4; Spennymoor Utd 1, Belper 0; Thackley 0, Brigg 1; Winterton Rangers 3, Sutton Town 1.
ABACUS WELSH LEAGUE: National division: Aber Lido 3, Ferndale 0; Briton Ferry 1, Ton Pentre 4; Llanelli 1, Bridgend 4; Pembroke 4, Brecon 2; Inter Cardiff 1, Cwmbran 2. Other matches postponed.
LONDON OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Old Aloysians 2, Chertsey Old Salesians 2; Glyn Old Boys 2, Latymer Old Boys 2; Old Meadonians 4, Old Suttonians 2.
NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Alnwick 0, Consett 5; Billingham Synthonia 0, Whitby 0; Blyth Spartans 1, Peterlee Newtown 1; Durham City 3, Brandon 0; Ferryhill Athletic 2, Guisborough 0; Murton 1, Gretna 0; Newcastle Blue Star 2, South Bank 1, Lewes 0; Haybridge Swifts 0, Chesham 2; Hitchin 1, Boreham Wood 2; Metropolitan Police 4, Southwick 0; Molesey 0, Aveley 1; Walton and Hersham 2, Dulwich 2; Wembley 1, Uxbridge 1; Worthing 0, Harlow 3; Yeading 1, Dorking 0. Second division north: Barton 5, Basildon 0; Berkhamsted 7, Saffron Walden 1; Billericay 3, Kingsbury 1; Clapton 0, Stevenage Borough 5; Hertford 0, Collier Row 2; Hornchurch 3, Edgware 3; Purfleet 1, Witham 0; Royston 0, Hemel Hempstead 3; Tilbury 1, Vauxhall Motors 1; Tring 1, Ware 0. Second division south: Banstead Athletic 0, Newbury 2; Bracknell 3, Camberley 0; Cove 0, Egham 4; Eastbourne 1, Ruislip Manor 2; Epsom and Ewell 2, Leatherhead 0; Feltham 2, Southall 0; Flackwell Heath 2, Herefield 3; Hungerford 1, Chertsey 1; Maidenhead 2, Horsham 0; Malden Vale 2, Hampton 1; Petersfield 0, Abingdon 3.

GM Vauxhall Conference

BARROW (0) 0 MERTHYR (2) 2
1,307 — Williams 13, Tucker 27
BATH (1) 1 BOSTON (0) 0
Withey 44 — 12,603
GATESHEAD (1) 1 FISHER ATH (0) 0
Butler 10 — 454
STAFFORD R (0) 1 YEOVIL (1) 1
Wood 47 — Conning 2
1,143
SUTTON UTD (1) 1 WELLING (1) 1
Golley 6 — Robbins 36
852
TELFORD (0) 1 CHELTENHM (0) 2
Brown 53 — Brogan 72, Willetts 80
979

	HOME P	W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Kettering	37	11	4	3	31	16	11	5	5	32	29	75
Colchester	36	13	3	2	32	11	9	5	5	27	20	74
Altrincham	36	10	6	2	41	17	11	5	1	34	17	72
Barnet	38	11	4	4	44	28	10	4	3	31	22	71
Wycombe	37	14	3	1	41	13	8	4	6	23	17	70
Runcorn	37	9	3	7	29	28	8	4	6	27	25	61
Maidenhead	37	10	4	5	36	19	6	4	8	21	31	61
Runcorn	38	11	4	4	39	25	5	5	11	23	35	61
Welling	38	8	4	8	32	29	6	3	10	23	34	55
Weymouth	36	7	6	5	31	26	4	3	11	21	41	54
Boston	36	7	7	4	27	21	4	4	11	22	37	54
Barrow	36	7	7	4	27	21	4	4	11	22	37	54
Merthyr	37	10	4	4	31	19	3	3	13	17	40	52
Kidderminster	37	9	4	5	28	19	3	5	11	16	32	51
Slough	37	9	3	7	27	23

صكا عن الاصل

FOOTBALL

Grimsby falter but lay on a show

By KEITH BLACKMORE

SOUTHEND United's win against Tranmere Rovers on Friday night meant Grimsby Town needed to beat Fulham at Craven Cottage on Saturday to return the top of the third division. Instead, they got a goalless draw in an entertaining game.

Grimsby should have had no trouble regaining the leadership. Fulham started the day fifth from bottom and are not safe from relegation, yet for an hour they played carefree, occasionally scintillating football.

Futcher and Birtles, whose experience has been so important in steadying Grimsby's defence this season, were occasionally made to look what they are, twice as old as Unwere, but for the most part they prevented Fulham from turning abundant possession into clear shooting opportunities.

Alan Buckley, the manager of Grimsby, said he had had "a few words" with his team at half-time and gave his excellent midfield player, Gilbert, permission to press forward. This almost paid off after 63 minutes when Gilbert's splendid long-range shot shook the bar. Thereafter, Grimsby had the better of things.

They, too, had difficulty creating chances and the one clear-cut opportunity fell to Smith, who had come on for Rees, but he was thwarted by a courageous lunge by Stannard.

The result did not satisfy either Buckley or Jimmy Hill, the managing director of Fulham, who has recently added his voice to that of the manager, Alan Dicks, in the dressing-room.

Hill was, however, gratified by the response of supporters to entreaties in the programme and on posters around the ground, to put aside differences over the future of Craven Cottage until relegation has been avoided.

The five leading clubs in the fourth division all won, including Hartlepool United, who beat Halifax Town 2-1. Allon scored their winner, his 31st goal of the season, but Norris stays the leading scorer in the division with his 32nd for Halifax, a remarkable feat with a club that is still third from bottom of the League.

FULHAM: J Stannard; S Morgan (sub: G Brazil), G Thomas, J Skinner, S North, M Newson, J Marshall, U Unwere (sub: M Kelly), P Stant, K Haag, M Pike.
GRIMSBY TOWN: S Sherwood, J McDermott, K Jobling, P Futcher, G Birtles, S Cunnington, T Watson, D Gilbert, A Rees (sub: M Smith), J Cockerill, N Woods.
Referee: R Pawley.

Wycombe first to Wembley

Altrincham	0
Wycombe Wanderers	2

By WALTER GAMMIE

UNFETTERED joy for Wycombe Wanderers but shame for Altrincham with the sending-off of Ken McKenna, their leading goalscorer, marked the finish of an uncompromising FA Trophy semi-final second leg at Moss Lane on Saturday.

Wycombe do not yet know the identity of their opponents at Wembley on May 11 because Witton Albion beat Kidderminster Harriers 4-3 to draw level on aggregate 4-4 in the other semi-final. The replay is at Stafford tomorrow.

Wycombe had endured a string of near-misses before West neatly turned in Carroll's corner in the sixtieth minute. Three minutes from time, McKenna's frustrations boiled over in an off-the-ball incident and two minutes after that Wycombe wrapped up victory with Scott's penalty after Hutchinson had been brought down by Reid.

ALTRINCHAM: J Wasiendo; T Miller, H Wiggins, P Rowlands, J McCormick, G Anderson (sub: A Reid), N Shaw, N Daws, P Shovler.
WYCOMBE WANDERERS: J Granville; M Crossley, S Cash, A Kerr, G Grasser, D Carroll, K Ryan, S Stapleton, M West (sub: A Robinson), K Scott, S Guppy (sub: S Hutchinson).
Referee: T West.

Leading two heading for Ibrox climax

THE Scottish championship looks as if it could be decided on the final day of the season when Rangers and Aberdeen meet at Ibrox (Roddy Forsyth writes).

On Saturday, both teams won by three-goal margins, Rangers at home to St Johnstone, where Durrant, Spencer and Huistra were the scorers. Reid, the champions' recent signing from Morton, became the sixth Rangers player to be dismissed in five games.

At Tynecastle, Robertson of Heart of Midlothian was sent off as Aberdeen recovered from an own goal by McKimmie to win 4-1, with McKimmie scoring at the correct end. Gillhaus and Connor, who got two, added the other goals.

Celtic's loss of form continued when they were beaten 2-1 by Dundee United at Tannadice. Their chances of playing in the Uefa Cup next season almost certainly depend on Dundee United winning the Scottish Cup.

Campbell award

Kevin Campbell, aged 21, the Arsenal football player, is the Barclays Young Eagle of the Month for April.

GOLF

Torrance masters Atlantic gales to win at La Moye

From MEL WEBB IN JERSEY

ON A day when par was an achievement and a bogey no disgrace, Sam Torrance defeated bowling gales sweeping in off the Atlantic to win the Jersey Open at La Moye yesterday.

Torrance could afford to bogey the last hole to finish with a total of 279, nine under par, to take the first prize of £33,330 by a stroke from Mark Davis and move closer to a sixth Ryder Cup appearance with £57,600 banked this season.

He had to dig deep into the memory bank to recall playing in worse conditions. He thought hard, then came up with the suggestion that the Atlantic Open at Estela last year might have been almost as bad. The difference was that in Portugal he had an 80, and finished nowhere, and this time a 73 left him sipping a pint of stout and smiling down from the top of the totem pole.

Winds, gusting up to 40 miles an hour, turned the La Moye course into a 6,800 yards of misery. Torrance went into the round leading by a stroke from Anders Sorensen, who had his chances to take the title, as did Davis and Mats Lanner, of Sweden. Davis did not drop out of the race until he had a bogey five on the last hole and by then Torrance had already landed the two crucial blows of this final day.

Having got to the turn in 37, he had a nine-iron in his hand at the short 12th. His caddie, Malcolm Mason, insisted it was no more than a wedge. Torrance took his man's advice, went just past the flag and sank the putt for a birdie two.

Two holes later Mason did his stuff again, pulling an eight-iron from the bag when Torrance wanted a seven. Right again; another birdie. It's bonus time, Malcolm.

Torrance, hitting the ball long and straight under the wind, had pars at the next three holes, and could feel secure only when Davis hit a three-iron too fat on the 18th, missed the green and lipped out his putt after chipping to six feet.

None the less, Davis, aged 26, had the best pay day of his career, taking £22,220 back to Thorndon Park, in Essex. Lanner, meanwhile, was left cursing himself for dropping three strokes in the last two holes after picking up an eagle three at the up-wind 11th with two drivers and a 20-foot putt.

When all was said and done, though, this was Torrance's day. The others did not have the game, the experience or the power. They also lacked a caddie by the name of Malcolm Mason.

LEADING FINAL TOTALS (Great Britain and Ireland unless stated): 279: S Torrance, 68, 69, 69, 73. 280: M Davis, 72, 71, 68, 71. 282: M Lanner (Swe), 72, 69, 68, 73; J Hawtree (SA), 70, 65, 73, 74; A Sorensen (Den), 70, 67, 70, 75. 284: C Montgomerie, 71, 69, 71, 73; C O'Connor Jr, 75, 68, 68, 73; C Parry (Aus), 70, 65, 75, 74; J Spence, 67, 73, 69, 75. 285: P Price, 73, 71, 68, 73; R Drummond, 69, 72, 71, 73; D Durnian, 69, 70, 72, 74; D Smyth, 71, 70, 68, 76; E Darcy, 74, 68, 68, 77.

286: B Marchbank, 67, 70, 75, 74; G Brand Jr, 73, 67, 71, 75; S Richardson, 73, 68, 72, 73; P Curry, 68, 73, 70, 75; G Ralph, 73, 69, 69, 75; F Nobilo (NZ), 69, 74, 68, 75; R Chapman, 70, 68, 71, 77. 287: R Boxall, 71, 71, 70, 75; J Rutledge (Can), 69, 69, 72, 77. 288: K Waters, 70, 72, 74, 72; S Bowman (US), 72, 70, 73, 73; B Lane, 73, 72, 70, 73; P Walton, 72, 70, 72, 74; T Charnley, 69, 71, 73, 75; B Barnes, 71, 70, 71, 76; D Prosser, 70, 74, 65, 79.

289: D Faherty, 71, 72, 75, 71; R Davis (Aus), 71, 71, 75, 72; D Gilford, 69, 73, 71, 76; W Stephens, 73, 71, 69, 76; P O'Malley (Aus), 69, 74, 70, 76. 290: A Forsbrand (Swe), 73, 72, 76, 69; D Cooper, 72, 72, 71, 75; A Hare, 71, 70, 73, 76. 291: M McLean, 72, 69, 75, 75; I Hawksworth, 72, 69, 75, 75; P Hall, 72, 70, 74, 75; P Baker, 71, 73, 70, 77; M Gates, 72, 71, 70, 78. 292: W Riley (Aus), 73, 72, 75, 72; M Poxon, 71, 69, 77, 75; J Bennett, 75, 70, 71, 76; P Way, 70, 71, 73, 78; C Moody, 69, 68, 75, 80; B Mailey (US), 69, 68, 74, 81.



Many a slip: Ian Woosnam, tentatively removes the flag at Augusta's 15th hole on Saturday, after his ball had come to rest on the cup's lip. Masters report, page 34.

HOCKEY

Cup hopes sunk by late strike

OLD Loughtonians threw away what chance they had of qualifying for the Poundstretcher National League Cup semi-finals by conceding a goal in the dying seconds of a 1-1 draw at home against Welton yesterday (Sydney Friskin writes).

Only a minute earlier, Old Loughtonians had squandered the fourteenth of their short corners, Halls having put them ahead in the 48th minute from the ninth of these awards.

Welton offered a spirited challenge, with Sheardown prominent on the right wing and Axon outstanding in goal, and they always spelt danger on the break. After taking a heavy pounding in the second half, they had enough spirit left to force the short corner from which Steven Moat scored.

Meanwhile, Hounslow made sure of their place in the semi-finals with a 3-1 victory over Indian Gymkhana at Feltham yesterday, Robert Thompson scoring twice. The draw for next Sunday's matches is: Havant v East Grinstead; Indian Gymkhana v Hounslow.

OLD LOUGHTONIANS: A Seaton; M Constable, S Ashton, J Hills, D Camilleri, A Philpot (subs: M Hickling), N Barker, P Krishnan, I Jennings, N Thompson, C Gladman.
WELTON: S Axon; J Bray, A Humphrey, D Bailey, S Moat, IS Nossiter (subs: J Moat), K Stamp, M Wake, P Sheardown, J Roberts, A Reynolds.
Umpires: A McCusker (Middlesex County) and P Worrall (Southern Counties).

SWIMMING

Leeds take sixth title

THE boys from Barnet Copthall failed by a narrow margin to deprive City of Leeds of its unbeaten record at the Optrex British club team championships at Sheffield on Saturday, despite the best efforts of Mike Fibbens and Martin Harris, who won five races between them (Craig Lord writes).

Led by Adrian Moorhouse, the Olympic 100 metres breaststroke champion, the Yorkshire squad took its sixth successive title, with consistent all-round performances taking the edge over Barnet's more concentrated strength.

The Bracknell imports, Sharron Davies and Emma Tattum, helped Portsmouth Northsea capture the women's title, but top individual honours went to Kathy Read, of Barnet Copthall.

Leeds and Portsmouth will represent Britain at the European Community championships at Eindhoven, The Netherlands, next month.

RUGBY LEAGUE

Wigan beat attrition factor

Leeds	8
Wigan	20

By KEITH MACKLIN

AMID the dressing-room debris of discarded bandages, mini-splints and champagne cups, a member of Wigan's medical staff summed it up: "We must have extended the boundaries of medical science to patch them up and keep them going."

Rather more extravagant terms, understandably, were used by the Wigan chairman, Maurice Lindsay. "This must rank as one of the great athletic achievements of the century," he said. Both were referring to Wigan's achievement of winning the Stones Bitter championship for the second successive year after carrying bruised and exhausted bodies through 11 league and cup matches in 32 days.

Before Saturday's game at Headingley, the Wigan coach, John Monie, had worried that the Leeds fixture would be one hurdle too many. His players staggered even him with the power of their running and commitment as Leeds were swept aside.

Leeds had promised Wigan a battle but Wigan brushed past tackles, caused consternation with a variety of kicks, and ultimately ground the Leeds challenge into the turf.

Only once did Leeds produce a spark of defiance, when their one legitimate break saw Heron and Schofield put Bentley through a gap and the wingman splendidly for Irving to add his second goal. This made it 14-8 in Wigan's favour, and with Hanley in the dressing-room, after limping off in the 52nd minute, there was a remote possibility of a Leeds charge.

It never happened, as this remarkable Wigan side lifted itself yet again to take play back to the Leeds line, where the two outstanding young forwards, Dermott and Betts, crashed through several tackles to power over.

Wigan dominated from the kick-off and should have been further in front than 9-2 at half-time. The only try had come from continual pressure, as Gallagher and Bentley fumbled, and Clarke swept the ball to Goodway who juggled with it before crossing. Goulding landed two of his three dropped goals, and Hanley chipped in with a dropped goal himself.

At the end of the game, Headingley became a sea of cherry and white as Wigan took the trophy on a lap of honour. Now they will buckle down again as another outstanding achievement looms, the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final on April 27. They might even add the premiership as well.

SCORERS: Leeds: Try: Bentley. Goals: Irving (2). Wigan: Tries: Goodway, Dermott, Betts. Goals: Botica (2). Dropped goals: Goulding (3), Hanley.

LEEDS: J Gallagher; J Bentley, C Gibson (sub: G Lord), S Irving, P Ford; G Schofield, P Harkin; R Powell, C Maskill, S Wane, C Heugh (sub: G Dvorak), P Dixon, D Heron.
WIGAN: S Hampson; D Myers, D Bell, A Goodway, F Botica; S Edwards, R Goulding; I Lucas, M Dermott, A Platt, D Betts, P Clarke, E Hanley (sub: I Gildart).
Referee: J Holdsworth.

Warrington crumble

THE slim hopes Warrington entertained of gaining the last place in the premiership play-off yesterday collapsed (Keith Macklin writes). While Featherstone Rovers scored six second-half tries at Bradford Northern to win 34-18, making sure of the vacant place, Warrington crashed 62-16 at St Helens.

The Saints took full advantage of weak defence and the dismissal of Warrington's Forster to swamp the hopefuls, scoring eight tries in 19 minutes in the second half, with the wings Hunte and Quirk getting seven tries between them.

In the second division, Swinton made sure of third promotion place alongside Salford and Halifax by beating Huddersfield 42-14. Doncaster missed out on the play-offs as they slumped 42-10 to a Leigh side so ravaged by injuries and stay-away players that a young back, Johnson, was included after joining the team coach for a ride. The half back, Donohue, scored three tries and kicked a goal, while Myler scored a try and six goals.

BASKETBALL

Kingston avenge cup loss in style

Kingston	94
Sunderland	72

THE last of Kingston's three successes this season, their eighth out of nine in two years, will be the one that gives them the least satisfaction (Nicholas Harling writes). Crushing revenge for their Coca-Cola Cup defeat by Sunderland was all very well but Saturday's emphatic victory in the final of the Carlsberg championship play-offs was so easy that the procession of uncontested baskets had Kingston's supporters muted long before the end.

The title at the NEC in Birmingham was virtually confirmed during a remarkable eight-minute spell early in the game when Sunderland, trailing 9-8, conceded the next 17 points to find themselves 26-8 down.

Without looking any great shakes, considering the number of missed jump shots by Alan Cunningham and Martin Clark, in his last game before retirement, Kingston led 49-27 at the interval.

OTHER PLAY-OFF RESULTS: Men: Second division championship final: Birmingham Bullets 81, Bury Metro Lobos 58. Third division championship final: Cardiff Buccaneers 24, Chilton Fastbreak 70. Women: First division championship final: Crystal Palace 56, Northampton Roos 52.

IN BRIEF

Madiot's Roubaix

MARK Madiot won the Paris-Roubaix cycling classic, a World Cup race, a minute ahead of fellow-Frenchmanmn, Jean-Claude Colotti, with Carlo Bomans, of Belgium, third. Madiot broke away with ten miles to go, at the same spot from which he escaped when winning in 1985.

☐ Chris Boardman set a Northern Ireland allcomers' 25 miles record of 52min 05sec at Newtownards, inflicting his fourth consecutive defeat on Graeme O'Bree, his Scottish rival.

ATHLETICS: David Lewis came within a second of winning the Reebok Festival of Road Running 5,000 metres in Mansfield, being outsprinted by the Kenyan, Ibrahim Kinuthia, whose 13min 49sec broke Garry Staines's course record.

JUDO: Kate Howey, the world middleweight junior champion, won the British Open at Crystal Palace. In the semi-final she beat Alexandra Schreiber, former world champion.

YACHTING: Christophe Anguin, leading the final 6,000-mile leg of the BOC single-handed round the world race from Uruguay to Newport, Rhode Island, has recovered 18 hours of his 21½-hour deficit on Alain Gautier, the overall race leader.

☐ Viktor Henrikson, head of the Red Star America's Cup challenge, was killed in a helicopter accident during a Soviet skiing trip.

SQUASH RACKETS: Del Harris won the East of England title in Norwich when Chris Robertson, of Australia, the world No. 2, withdrew with a twisted ankle when leading 10-8, 9-4, 5-2.

BOWLS: Andy Thomson won the Lodge Sports English indoor singles championship for the third consecutive year, defeating Mel Biggs 21-12 at Melton Mowbray.

HOCKEY: India called off the British leg of a proposed European tour in May and June, complaining that the British wanted to confine them to playing club sides and not international matches.

EQUESTRIANISM: Ian Stark rode a brilliant double with his two greys, Glenburnie and Murphy Himself, at the Daihatsu Brigstock horse trials in Northamptonshire.

TENNIS: Stefan Edberg won the Japan Open for the third successive year, beating Ivan Lendl 6-1, 7-5, 6-0 in Tokyo.

RUGBY UNION: Albert Ferrasse was re-elected president of the French federation, his supporters taking 24 of the 35 seats on the board of directors compared to 11 for the rival list headed by Robert Paparemborde.

SWIMMING: Mark Spitz, winner of seven Olympic gold medals at Munich, trailed Tom Jager at 50 metres butterfly in the first of his comeback races, clocking 26.70sec to Jager's 24.92. He blamed it on nerves.

REAL TENNIS: Nigel Pendrigh, winner of the recent MCC allcomers' event, crushed John Ward to take the MCC Gold Racquet at Lord's.

LACROSSE: Hampstead defeated Bath 19-9 to retain the South of England men's flag trophy at Motspur Park.

BOXING: Steve Boyle's challenge for the vacant European lightweight title against Antonio Renzo, of Italy, in Rossano Calabro, has been postponed a week to April 27.

MOTOR RACING: Will Hoy, of the newly-formed Securicor VLM team, driving a BMW M3, lead from start to finish in the second round of the Esso British Touring Car championship race at Snetterton.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

MILAN: Stramilano half-marathon: 1, M Tanui (Ken), 1hr 00min 50sec; 2, A Masai (Ken), 1:01:07; 3, A De Freitas Castro (Br), 1:01:27; 4, S Monegbetti (Aus), 1:01:30; 5, B Mooney (Ire), 1:01:43; 6, G Calderari (It), 1:02:10.
MANSFIELD: Reebok Festival of Running (5km): Men: 1, I Kinuthia (Ken), 13min 49sec; 2, D Lewis, 13:50; 3, A Mumo (Ken), 13:51; 4, P Larkins, 13:55; 5, N Adams, 13:56. 6, B Dee, 13:58. Women: 1, M Ngotho (Ken), 15:16; 2, K Hutcheson, 16:14; 3, N Morris, 16:22; 4, M O'Connor (NZ), 16:21; 5, A Bell, 16:27; 6, L York, 16:29.

BADMINTON

LARGS: Under-16 six nations tournament: Qualifying round: England bt Netherlands, 6-3; Denmark bt Scotland, 9-0; Germany bt Sweden, 5-4. Pool A: England bt Germany, 5-4; Denmark bt Germany, 9-0; Denmark bt England, 8-1. Pool B: Netherlands bt Scotland, 7-2; Sweden bt Scotland, 8-1; Netherlands bt Wales, 5-4. Final positions: 1, Denmark; 2, England; 3, Germany; 4, Netherlands; 5, Sweden; 6, Scotland.

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Saturday: Pittsburgh Pirates 3, Chicago Cubs 1; San Diego Padres 4, Los Angeles Dodgers 2; Philadelphia Phillies 11, St Louis Cardinals 4; Montreal Expos 4, New York Mets 3; Houston Astros 3, San Francisco Giants 2. Yesterday: New York Mets 6, Montreal Expos 3; Philadelphia Phillies 4, St Louis Cardinals 2; Atlanta Braves 7, Cincinnati Reds 5; Chicago Cubs 7, Pittsburgh Pirates 3; San Francisco Giants 16, Houston Astros 2; San Diego Padres 6, Los Angeles Dodgers 3.
AMERICAN LEAGUE: Saturday: Chicago White Sox 4, Detroit Tigers 1; Toronto Blue Jays 5, Milwaukee Brewers 4; Minnesota Twins 8, California Angels 0; Kansas City Royals 9, New York Yankees 8; Baltimore Orioles 3, Texas Rangers 0; Oakland As 6, Seattle Mariners 1. Yesterday: Boston Red Sox 4, Cleveland Indians 0; Chicago White Sox 4, Detroit Tigers 1; Milwaukee Brewers 7, Toronto Blue Jays 3; New York Yankees 9, Kansas City Royals 8; Oakland As 4, Seattle Mariners 2; California Angels 18, Minnesota Twins 9; Baltimore Orioles 11, Texas Rangers 4.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Saturday: Boston Celtics 119, Miami Heat 109; Charlotte Hornets 111, Minnesota Timberwolves 110; New Jersey Nets 104, Cleveland Cavaliers 103; Washington Bullets 95, Philadelphia 76ers 85; Detroit Pistons 95, Chicago Bulls 91; New York Knicks 112, Indiana Pacers 108; Seattle Supersonics 103, San Antonio Spurs 99; Los Angeles Clippers 146, Denver Nuggets 130; Phoenix Suns 103, Dallas Mavericks 91. Yesterday: Portland Trail Blazers 118, Los Angeles Lakers 113; Cleveland Cavaliers 102, New Jersey Nets 86; Atlanta Hawks 97, Milwaukee Bucks 91; Utah Jazz 121, Denver Nuggets 110; Seattle Supersonics 105, Orlando Magic 96; Golden State Warriors 132, Dallas Mavericks 114; Houston Rockets 88, Sacramento Kings 84.

BILLIARDS

SHEFFIELD: Bangalore International Masters: First qualifying round: G Sethi (India) bt R Chapman (Eng), 4-0; P Causey (Eng) bt J Fitzmaurice (Eng), 4-3; M Wildman (Eng) bt D Rees (Eng), 4-1; J Murphy (Eng) w/o D Singh, (India). Second qualifying round: M Russell (Eng) bt S Hendrawata (Eng), 4-0; Sethi bt P Gilchrist (Eng), 4-3.

BOWLS

MELTON MOWBRAY: English indoor championships: Singles: Semi-finals: A Thomson (Cyprus, Beckenham) bt A Alcock (Gerrards), 21-11; M Bligg (Thamesdown, Swindon) bt M King (Hunstanton), 21-18. Final: Thomson bt Bligg, 21-12.

CRICKET

50-OVER MATCH: Essex 250-7 (J P Stephenson 84, N Hussain 48); The Netherlands 182-8 (R Oosterom 87, R Lefebvre 59). Essex won by 68 runs.

CROQUET

PALM BEACH, Florida: International match: Second day: Great Britain lead United States, 7-2.

CYCLING

PARIS-ROUBAIX RACE (266.5km, from Compiegne to Roubaix): 1, M Madiot (Fr), 7hr 8min 18sec; 2, J-C Colotti, (Fr), 1min 07sec behind; 3, C Bomans (Bel); 4, S Bauer (Can); 5, F Ballerini (It); 6, W Peeters (Bel), same time.
CYCLE CLUB ABERGAVENNY PRO-AM HANDICAP (45 miles): 1, S Jaughin (KJ Carpets), 1:46:46; 2, B Lucjowski (PCA), same time; 3, C Nott (Cardiff Ajax), same time.
LEE ARDS (25 miles): 1, C Boardman (Manchester Wh), 52min 05sec; 2, G O'Bree (Glasgow Wh), 53.05; 3, P Cassidy (Nevan), 54.35.

EQUESTRIANISM

VOLVO WORLD CUP FINAL: 1, Henderson Milton (J Whitaker, GB), 1.5 pts; 2, Special Envoy (N Pessoa, Br), 5; 3, Norton de Rhuys (P-Y Bost, Fr), 5.5; 4, Optisbeure Pasiha (D Becker, Ger), 8; 5, Akal Quidam de Revel (H Godignon, Fr), 10.5; 6, Optisbeure Espino (J Lansink, Neth), 12.5; equal 7, Us (US) and Starman (A Kozminski, US), 17; 9, Life is Life (E Gundel, Ger), 17.5. Third leg: 1, Henderson Milton (J Whitaker), 0; equal 2, Special Envoy (N Pessoa, Br), Norton de Rhuys (P-Y Bost, Fr), Wuk (C Schlon, US) and Quasar of Diamonds (J-C Vangsenborghs, Bel), 4.
DAIHATSU BRIGSTOCK TRIALS: Advanced One: 1, Glenburnie (I Stark), 39; 2, Troubleshooter (H Bell), 39; 3, Middle Road (N Coe), 39. Advanced Two: 1, Sir Barnaby (P Nolan), 39; 2, Just An ace (R Lamilead), 38; 3, Gal Street (K Straker), 40. Advanced Three: 1, Murphy Himself (I Stark), 39; 2, Rosemary Surprise (K Straker), 39; 3, Ballycotton (A Hersa), 37.

GYMNASTICS

LILLESHALL: Sports Acrobatic British Championships: Men: Tumbling: C Smith (West Bromwich), 27.7pts. Pair: R Bellton and I Roberts (Bristol), 28.1. Women: Tumbling: P Muskett (Hendon), 28.2. Pair: D Meikle and M Tyler (South Tyneside), 28.1.

HOCKEY

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: East: Semi-finals: Norfolk 1, Cambridgeshire 0; Essex 3, Suffolk 1. Final: Norfolk v Cambridgeshire. Midlands: Leicestershire 2, Northamptonshire 3; Nottinghamshire 1, Staffordshire 2; Shropshire 1, Derbyshire 0; Worcestershire 2, Warwickshire 1. South: Berkshire 1, Middlesex 2; Oxfordshire 0, Kent 4; Surrey 0, Sussex 1; Hampshire 10, Buckinghamshire 0. North: Lancashire 4, Northumberland 2; Cheshire 4, Yorkshire 3.
POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE: First division: Saturday: Havant 2, Neston 2; Slough 1, Hounslow 1. Yesterday: Bromley 1, Teddington 3; Hounslow 3, Indian Gymkhana 0; Ipsa 1, Slough 4; Old Loughtonians 1, Welton 1; Stourport 2, East Grinstead 4. Second division: Fareham 3, Warrington 0; Taunton Vale 0, Bournville 2.
DUBLIN: Four Nations Schoolboys tournament: Under-16: Wales 2, England 2; Ireland 4, Scotland 0; Wales 1, Scotland 1, Ireland 3, England 0. Final placings: 1, Ireland, 6pts; 2, Scotland, 3; 3, Wales, 2; 4, England, 1. Under-18: Wales 1, England 0; Ireland 2, Scotland 3; Wales 1, Scotland 3; Ireland 1, England 3. Final placings: 1, Scotland, 5pts; 2, England, 3; 3, Ireland, 2; 4, Wales, 2.
CLUB MATCH: Brighton and Hove 1, City of Portsmouth 0.

GOLF

DEAL: Hatford Hewitt tournament: Lancing bt Rossall, 3½-1½; Whitgift bt Charterhouse, 3½-½; Shrewsbury bt Cuncio, 3½-1½; Harrow bt Epsom, 3-2; Dulwich bt Edinburgh, 3½-1½; Liverpool bt Repton, 3-2; Shaftsbome bt Glenalmond, 3½-1½; Lancing bt Whitgift, 3½-1½; Shrewsbury bt Harrow, 4-1; Dulwich bt Liverpool, 3-2. Semi-finals: Lancing bt Shaftsbome, 3-2; Shrewsbury bt Dulwich, 4-1. Final: Shrewsbury bt Lancing, 3½-1½.
NATTESBURN, Mississippi: Men's tournament: Leading third-round scores (US unless stated): 198: M Nicollette, 65, 66, 68. 199: F Conner, 65, 66, 68. 201: J Haas, 66, 69, 66; G Ledbetter, 67, 70, 64; D Hart, 64, 68, 69; P Funk, 66, 67, 68. 202: B Crenshaw, 71, 67, 74; G Wells (NZ), 68, 73, 66; M Springer, 66, 70, 66; D Halldorson, 68, 66, 68; J Anderson, 67, 69, 67; C Perry, 68, 67, 67; S Pate, 70, 65, 67; J Nelford, 68, 66, 69; S Wells, 65, 68, 69.
DAIWA/ICI: Japan PGA Open: Leading final scores (Japanese unless stated): 199: R Kawagishi, 67, 66, 66. 203: H Maiioo, 70, 66, 67. 204: T Watanabe, 68, 68, 68; T Maruyama, 67, 68, 69; B Jones (Aus), 69, 67, 68; K Muroya, 66, 68, 69; T Sugihara, 68, 64, 71. 205: P Hoad (GB), 68, 71, 66; Y Kaneko, 67, 68, 70.
TAMSUI, Taiwan: Men's tournament: Leading final scores: 276: J Jacobs (US), 73, 67, 70, 75; A Fernando (Phil), 68, 74, 69, 74. 286: K Chiehsiung (Taiwan), 74, 70, 72, 72. 288: L Chih-chen (Taiwan), 77, 73, 70, 69; A Meeks (US), 72, 75, 72, 70; T Prentice (GB), 72, 71, 71, 74. 289: R Gibson (Can), 70, 76, 73, 71; A Debusk (US), 72, 75, 72, 71.

MOTOR SPORT

SUZUKA, Japan: World Sportscar Championship: Opening round: 1, M Baldi (It) and P Alliot (Fr), Peugeot, 2hr 25min 01.686sec (111.460mph); 2, J-L Schlesser (Fr) and J Mass (Ger), Jaguar, 2:26.50.01 at one lap; 3, M Reuter (Ger) and H Tolvonen (Fin), Porsche, 2:26.09.20 at 2 laps; 4, C Zwolsman and C Euser (Neth), Ford, 2 laps; 5, G Fouche (Zim) and S Andaker (Swe), Porsche, -3 laps; 6, M Sala (Sp) and D Kennedy (Ire), Mazda, 3 laps.
ABERDEEN: Grampian City Rally: Mintex national championship: Leading round: 1, T Smith and R Jones (Ford Sierra), 1:11.07; 2, H Mikkola and A Moss (Japan, Mitsubishi), 1:11.26; 3, S Hill and B Gall (Ford Sierra), 1:13.20. Championship positions (after third of eight rounds): 1, Mikkola, 65pts; 2, Hill, 58; 3, D Mann, 53.SHELTERTON: Stoke Rowing Car championship: Leading second round (35.14 miles): 1, W Hoy (Securicor-Bush), 23min 23.89sec; 2, R Bellin (Securicor-Bush), +3.59sec; 3, A Rouse (Kelliher-Toyota), +7.52. Championship positions (drivers): 1, Hoy, 48pts; 2, J Allam, 28; 3, Bellin, 24.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): First-round Stanley Cup play-off games: Saturday: Norris Division: Minnesota North Stars 6, Chicago Blackhawks 0; St Louis Blues 6, Detroit Red Wings 1. Smythe Division: Los Angeles Kings 7, Vancouver Canucks 4; Calgary Flames 5, Edmonton Oilers 3. Yesterday: Patrick Division: Washington Capitals 4, New York Rangers 2; Pittsburgh Penguins 4, New Jersey Devils 3. Adams Division: Boston Bruins 5, Hartford Whalers 1; Montreal Canadiens 5, Buffalo Sabres 1.
HEINEKEN CHAMPIONSHIPS: Quarter-finals: Cardiff 8, Murrayfield 6; Nottingham 3, Whitley 4; Solihull 11, Ayr 12. Provincial play-offs: Fife 4, Humberside 6; Slough 7, Bracknell 13; Swindon 3, Cleveland 9; Telford 7, Romford 14. Qualifying play-offs: Glasgow 8, Oxford City 9; Milton Keynes 10, Tayside 3.
COPENHAGEN: Olympic qualifying match: First leg: Poland bt Denmark, 6-4.

JUDO

CRYSTAL PALACE: British Open championships: Men: Bantamweight (-60kg): Gold: N Donohue (Eng). Silver: C Baulaygue (Fr). Bronzes: R West (Eng) and D Schwarzle (Fr). Lightweight (-65kg): Gold: J Hanks (Fr). Silver: T Brennan (Eng). Light (-71kg): Gold: E Zymna (Ger). Light-middle (-78kg): Gold: D Dupouey (Fr). Bronzes: D Soutsky (Eng) and R Bloh (Eng). Middle (-86kg): Gold: L Vidal (Sp). Silver: D White (Eng). Light-heavy (-95kg): Gold: M Melling (Ger). Heavy (+95kg): Gold: E Gordon (Eng). Women: Bantam (-48kg): Gold: S Meloux (Fr). Silver: K Briggs (Eng). Feather (-52kg): Gold: H Goossens (Bel). Light (-56kg): Gold: N Pegotsher (Sw). Bronzes: N Evans (Eng) and N Himmethal (Ger). Light-middle (-61kg): Gold: D Bell (Eng). Middle (-66kg): Gold: K Howey (Eng). Light-heavy (-72): Gold: I de Kok (Neth). Silver: J Morris (Eng). Bronzes: J Horton (Eng) and R Swaniman (Eng). Heavy (+72): Gold: K Kutz (Ger). Silver: S Lee (Eng).

LACROSSE

MOTSPUR PARK, London: South of England Men's Flag Trophy: Seniors: Hampstead 19, Bath 8. Intermediates: Buckhurst Hill 14, Croydon 8. Minor: Beckenham A 10, Hampstead A 2.

RACQUETS

QUEEN'S CLUB: British Open doubles championship: First round: J Prenn and J Male bt P Mallinson and M Crosby, 15-2, 15-3, 15-8, 15-8; D Johnson and A Lyons bt S Tanner and A Williams, 15-7, 16-13, 15-8, 15-12.

ORIENTEERING

CONISTON BADGE: Men (10.4km): 1, R Lee (Edinburgh Interlopers), 66min 58sec; 2, M Seddon (South East Lancashire), 70:10; 3, M Bagness (Wanlor), 70:23. Women (7.2km): 1, J Ramsden (Wanlor), 58:36; 2, Y Hague (Altrincham), 58:32; 3, G Hale (Cleveland), 58:34.

MOTOCROSS

PAYERNE, Switzerland: Swiss 500cc grand prix: First race: 1, R Waustenraed (Bel, Kawasaki; 2, K Nicoll (GB), KTM; 3, J Boonen (Bel), KTM. Second race: 1, Nicoll; 2, Anefis, 3. Lisa. World championship standings (after opening round): 1, Nicoll, 37pts; 2, Anefis, 27; equal 3, Lisa and Jobe, 25.

MOTORCYCLING

LE MANS 24-HOUR RACE: Final leaders (French unless stated): 1, P Monmerat, B Bonhuil and R Nicolas, Yamaha, 320km; 2, T Crine, B Morrison (GB) and R Moore (US), Kawasaki, at 1min 24.40sec; 3, A Vieira, M Duhamel (Can) and J-L Battistini, Kawasaki, at 4 laps; 4, S Helop (GB), S Buckmaster (GB) and M Linscott (GB) Honda, at 4 laps.
DONINGTON: Spring Cup: Opening round: Women: Supersport 400: J Whitham (Suzuki), 13min 8.5sec. Supersport 600: S Ivee (Yamaha), 9min 40.5sec. Open sidecars: M Cookson and M Hibbard (Yamaha), 13min 6.8sec. 125cc race: I McConnachie (Honda), 13min 7.5sec. Superbikes: J Whitham (Suzuki), 15min 19.10sec. 250cc race: A Carter (Honda), 15min 38.0sec.

TENNIS

AMELIA ISLAND, Florida: Women's championships: Quarter-finals: S Graf (Ger) bt N Zvereva (USSR), 6-0, 6-2; P Fendick (US) bt Z Garrison (US), 6-1, 6-4; G Sabatini (Arg) bt H Sukova (Cz), 6-2, 6-1; A Sanchez Vicario (Sp) bt L Meshki (USSR), 6-1, 7-5. Semi-finals: Graf bt Fendick, 6-0, 6-1; Sabatini bt Sanchez Vicario, 6-2, 2-6, 6-4.
TOKYO: Japan Open: Men's singles: Semi-finals: S Edberg (Swe) bt M Chang (US), 7-5, 6-2; I Lendl (US) bt J Courier (US), 6-4, 6-1. Final: Edberg bt Lendl, 6-1, 7-5, 6-0. Women's singles: Final: L McNeil (US) bt S Appelmans (Bel), 2-6, 6-2, 6-1.
BARCELONA: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: E Sanchez (Sp) bt M Jaite (Arg), 7-5, 6-2; S Bruguera (Sp) bt G Perez-Roldan (Argentina), 6-4, 6-4. Final: E Sanchez (Sp) bt S Bruguera (Sp), 6-4, 7-6, 6-2.

MOTOCROSS

PAYERNE, Switzerland: Swiss 500cc grand prix: First race: 1, R Waustenraed (Bel), Kawasaki; 2, K Nicoll (GB), KTM; 3, J Boonen (Bel), KTM. Second race: 1, Nicoll; 2, Anefis, 3. Lisa. World championship standings (after opening round): 1, Nicoll, 37pts; 2, Anefis, 27; equal 3, Lisa and Jobe, 25.

M

● RUGBY UNION 30
● RACING 30, 31
● FOOTBALL 32

SPORT

Woosnam enjoys the position of front-runner

From MITCHELL PLATTS, GOLF CORRESPONDENT, AUGUSTA

AS IAN Woosnam attempted here yesterday to become the third British golfer to win the Masters, so he and Tom Watson were looking over their shoulders for a challenger to emerge from the pack on the Augusta National course.

While Woosnam was seeking to emulate Sandy Lyle, winner in 1988, and Nick Faldo (1989, 1990), the presence of José-María Olazábal on the leader board increased the prospect of there being a seventh success by a European golfer since Severiano Ballesteros became the first in 1980.

Watson, however, attempted to discourage nationalistic talk. He said: "We're not playing the Ryder Cup. We're playing the Masters. And I'm playing the golf course first of all, then the individuals close to me."

There was tremendous support among the American public for Watson, without a win since 1987, and his compatriots Lanny Wadkins, Larry Mize, Andrew Magee, Ray Floyd and Ben Crenshaw, all of whom were close enough if they were good enough.

The home supporters are desperate that the run of European successes should be brought to an end by one of their own.

Woosnam and Watson both made light of a rules debate caused by an incident on Saturday. Woosnam had putted for an eagle at the 15th but the ball stopped on the lip of the cup. Woosnam followed the rule book by walking to the hole in reasonable time. Then he was allowed to wait ten seconds to determine whether the ball was at rest. In fact, he tapped in after waiting only four seconds.

Tom Weiskopf, commentating on television, suggested that there had been a disagreement between Woosnam and Watson. Watson was less than pleased when questioned on the matter.

"All I said to Ian was mark the ball and be careful with the flag," Watson said. "In fact, if I had been Ian then I would have waited a little longer. It makes me mad that people are always trying to create a controversy."

Woosnam said: "I thought about marking the ball but I just wondered whether I could put it back without it falling in. I thought it was best to just tap it in. The only thing I was worried about was pulling the flag out and touching the ball."

What was bound to play on Woosnam's mind as the final round unfolded was the certainty of the dramas to come over the closing nine holes where the tournament is traditionally decided.

He was well aware that history has shown that the Masters, even one such as this edition which has been a kaleidoscope of dramas, really springs to life on the last nine holes.

The Welshman's 67 on Saturday had enabled him to take a flimsy one-shot lead over Watson into the final round. He knew that the eight foot putts he missed at the 16th and 17th holes and the shot could yet prove hideously expensive.

Statistical evidence also weighed against Woosnam. In the history of the event, the leader with 18 holes remaining has stayed ahead on 29 occasions and been overtaken on 36.

Woosnam is by nature an optimistic soul and he enjoys being at the top of the leader board. Even so he acknowledged that it is one thing to lead in a European tournament and quite another in a major championship.

"The only time I've led a major was after the first round of the Open in 1986," He said. "So this is new to me."

Nick Faldo began his round on the final day with a rare flourish, scoring an eagle three at the second hole, which took him to six under par. It was exactly the start that he required to place pressure on the leaders. He was well aware that if he could put his name on the leader board the others would start to worry.

CHIP HOME SCORES

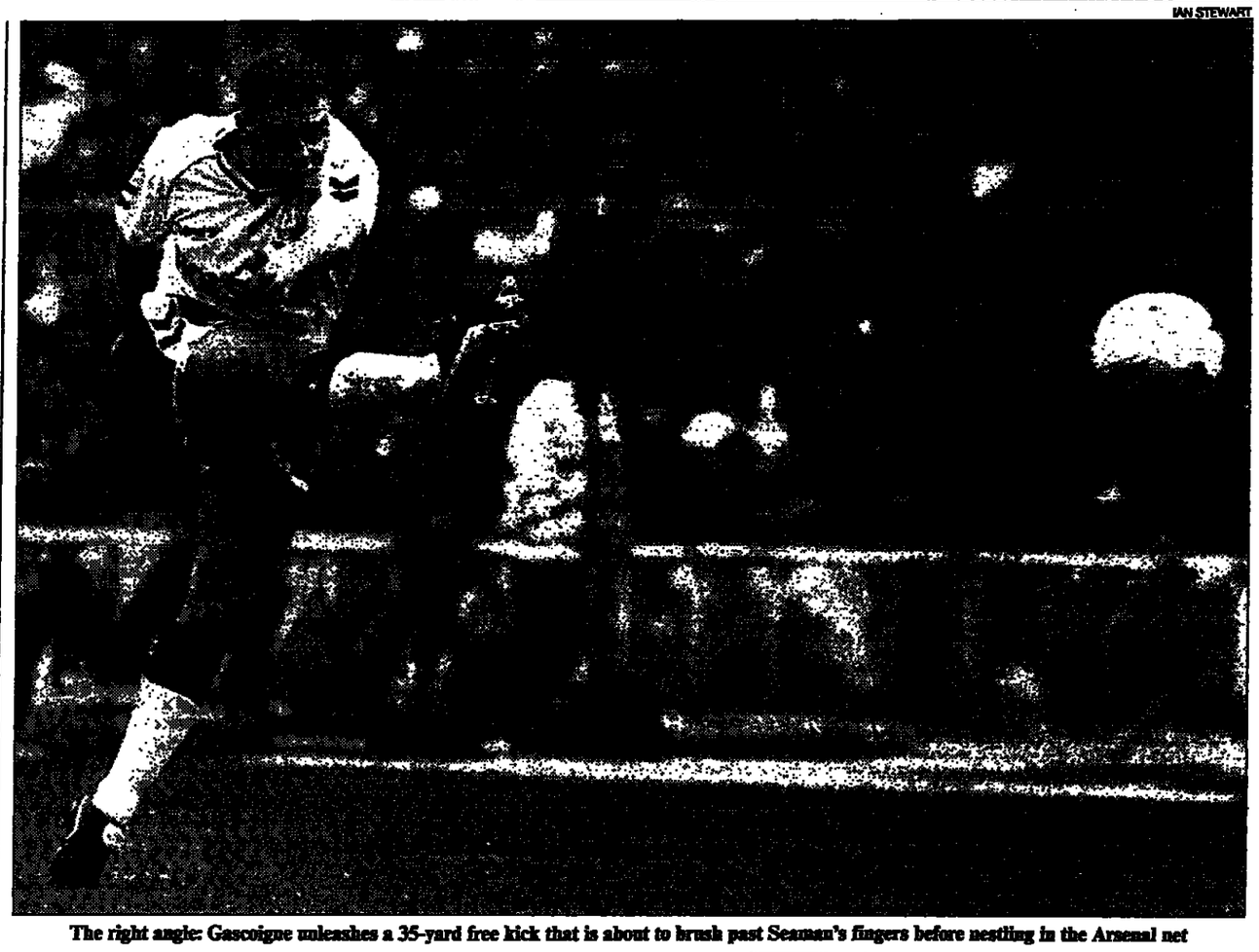
US unless stated

205: I Woosnam (GB), 72, 66, 67.
206: T Watson, 67, 68, 70.
208: L Wadkins, 67, 71, 70; J-M Olazábal (Sp), 68, 71, 69.
209: L Mize, 72, 71, 66.
210: A Magee, 70, 72, 68; I Baker-Finch (Aus), 71, 70, 69; R Floyd, 71, 68, 71.
211: B Crenshaw, 70, 73, 68; P Jacobsen, 73, 70, 68; S Simpson, 69, 73, 69; P Jacobsen, 73, 70, 68; J Mudd, 70, 70, 71; M McCumber, 67, 71, 73.
212: N Faldo (GB), 72, 73, 67; P Azinger, 72, 73, 67; T Nakajima (Japan), 67, 74, 71; D Pooley, 72, 71, 69; C Pavin, 73, 70, 69; W Levi, 69, 73, 70; J Sindelar, 72, 70, 70; J Gallacher Jr, 67, 74, 71; J Nicklaus, 68, 72, 72; J Gallagher, 67, 74, 71; R Mediate, 72, 69, 71.
213: M Hatalsky, 71, 72, 70; C Stadler, 70, 72, 71; F Couples, 71, 70, 72; B Langer (Ger), 71, 68, 74.
214: M Ozaki (Japan), 69, 77, 69; J D Blake, 74, 72, 68; S Ballesteros (Sp), 75, 70, 69; S Pate, 72, 73, 69; J Sluman, 71, 71, 72; M O'Meara, 74, 68, 72.
215: K Green, 70, 74, 71; D Frost, 71, 73, 71; S Hoch, 72, 70, 73; M Brooks, 69, 72, 74; S Elkington (Aus), 72, 69, 74; F Zoeller, 70, 70, 75; H Irwin, 70, 70, 75; B R Brown, 74, 65, 77.
216: J Huston, 71, 73, 72; W Mayfair, 72, 72, 72; N Henke, 73, 71, 72, *P Mickelson, 69, 73, 74.
217: N Price (Zim), 72, 73, 72; T Aaron, 70, 74, 73; D Love III, 72, 71, 74.
218: C Strange, 72, 74, 72; D Hammond, 72, 73, 73.
219: L Nelson, 74, 69, 76; *M Zerman (SA), 71, 71, 77.
220: B Tennyson, 76, 67, 75; L Trevino, 71, 72, 77.
221: M McNulty (Zim), 72, 74, 75.
224: T Kite, 71, 75, 78.

Those who missed the cut

147: G Norman (Aus), 78, 69; J Cook, 77, 70; W Bittion, 72, 75; G Player (SA), 72, 75. 148: W Casper, 77, 71; M Donald, 73, 75; S Jones, 73, 75; T Sieckmann, 72, 76. 149: R Rafferty (N Ire), 75, 75; R Gamez, 72, 77; L Roberts, 72, 77. 150: R Tway, 75, 75; C Beck, 74, 76; W Grady (Aus), 74, 76. 151: T Simpson, 73, 78; K Knox, 72, 79. 152: J Benepe, 78, 74; G Brewer, 78, 74; E Schulz, 74, 78. 153: F Minozzi (Phil), 78, 75; G Morgan, 77, 76; *J Stuart, 81, 72; A Lyle (GB), 77, 76. 154: C Coody, 77, 77. 155: *M Combe, 81, 74; *R Muntz (Neth), 80, 75; A Palmer, 78, 77; J Inman, 75, 80.

* Denotes amateur



IAN STEWART

The right angle: Gascoigne unleashes a 35-yard free kick that is about to brush past Seaman's fingers before nestling in the Arsenal net

Seaman is reduced to tears by Gascoigne

Tottenham Hotspur..... 3
Arsenal..... 1

By STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

PAUL Gascoigne has provoked tears to flow again but yesterday they were not his own. In shaping the destiny of the first FA Cup semi-final to be held at Wembley, he broke the hearts of Arsenal, and especially of their goalkeeper, David Seaman, who left the arena weeping.

Touching heights of brilliance rare even by his elevated standards, Gascoigne blocked Arsenal's path to a historic double and ushered Tottenham Hotspur to the final in which they will meet Nottingham Forest on May 18.

His contribution, though it lasted scarcely an hour, bordered on the sensational.

Show him a spacious stage, turn up the lights, cover the event with television cameras and Gascoigne remains one of the game's most enthralling entertainers. As in Italy last summer, he cannot resist taking the starring role during the biggest of occasions.

Throughout his first FA Cup campaign for the club (injury and suspension curtailed his activities in the past couple of seasons), he has been their principal inspiration.

In spite of recently undergoing a stomach operation, he could not be restrained even by the most disciplined defensive organisation in the country.

On the eve of this north London derby, he was so overcome by nerves that he could not sleep and required a couple of injections. Within a dozen minutes his natural hyperactive energy was being positively extended and Arsenal's ambitions of winning the Cup as well as the League were in ruins.

After only the third defeat of their extraordinary season, George Graham conceded that "the game was lost" then. Gascoigne's first act was outrageous both in conception and execution.

Only he could have considered beating England's goalkeeper with a 35-yard free kick and carried out the undisguised but apparently absurd threat.

His shot, struck with optimum power and rising to the perfect height, brushed Seaman's fingers before nestling in the corner and Tottenham, bristling with purposeful aggression, were ahead. After Gascoigne bemused Thomas with a couple of inventive flicks to release Allen, their lead was extended by a characteristic close-range prod from Lineker.

Cautions issued to Dixon, Stewart and Samways punctuated a period of hostilities which ended once Gascoigne and Thomas had indulged in their own personal and brief warfare.

Arsenal scored only through an unforced error, perpetrated by the inexperienced Edinburgh, whose mis-directed clearance led ultimately to Smith, though surrounded by three opponents, heading in Dixon's cross.

Arsenal, though encouraged psychologically a few seconds before the change of ends, were unable sufficiently to increase their momentum.

Winterburn and Smith, who had missed the clearest opportunity of the first half, might have claimed an equaliser before Gascoigne, having scored his sixth goal of the FA Cup, walked off to an ovation from half of the stadium. Almost immediately, his replacement, Nayim, gave Tottenham the belief they were seeking.

Within minutes of his incisive run, Lineker made a more profound impact after gaining possession inside the centre circle. Using Samways as a convenient decoy, he accelerated past the comparatively cumbersome Adams and drove across Seaman. Alarmingly, England's goalkeeper could do no more than wave the ball in.

Lineker's fourth goal in two games since returning from Tenerife was more crucial than it seemed at the time. A typically animated Gascoigne watched from the bench as Campbell, who hit the bar, Smith and Merson threatened to belittle his contribution and spoil Tottenham's impending celebrations.

Gale sent off, page 32

At Wembley. Att: 77,893. Ref: R Lewis.
Previous FA Cup meetings: Arsenal W1, Tottenham W1.

HT: 1-2.	ARSENAL 1	TOTTENHAM 3
Scorers:	Smith 45	Gascoigne 5 Lineker 11, 76
Cautions:	Dixon 17	Stewart 12, Samways 27 Van den Hauwe 69
Subs:	Groves 63 (Limpar)	Nayim 61 (Gascoigne) Walsh 86 (Samways)

	ARSENAL		TOTTENHAM	
Shots (on target/total)	8	15	6	11
Corners (left/right)	2	1	1	-
Crosses (left/right)	9	22	10	7
Free kicks/pens conceded	28	-	21	-
Offsides		1		8
Possession (gained/lost)	48	91	49	89

ARSENAL (4-4-2)

Player	Goal attempt	Crosses L	Crosses R	Fouls By	Fouls On
Seaman	-	-	-	-	-
Dixon	-	-	12	3	4
Winterburn	1	3	-	1	1
Thomas	-	-	-	4	1
Bould	-	-	-	2	-
Adams	-	-	1	3	3
Campbell	4	-	1	3	3
Davis	-	1	4	2	2
Smith	5	-	1	2	-
Merson	2	1	3	2	1
Limpar	3	3	-	3	3
Groves	-	1	-	-	1
Unused: O'Leary.					

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-5-1)

Player	Goal attempt	Crosses L	Crosses R	Fouls By	Fouls On
Thorstvedt	-	-	-	-	-
Edinburgh	-	2	-	-	1
Van den Hauwe	-	-	2	1	1
Sedgley	-	-	-	1	1
Howells	-	-	8	-	1
Mabbutt	1	-	-	3	1
Stewart	-	-	1	3	3
Gascoigne	3	-	-	2	5
Samways	1	2	-	2	4
Lineker	4	-	-	1	3
Allen	1	1	3	1	2
Walsh	1	-	-	1	-
Nayim	-	2	1	2	3

* Compiled by Julian Desborough.

Châteaux Gazza is not a wine that travels well

ALAS, poor Gazza. I wonder which of his would-be billion-billion-billion-lira purchasers were at Wembley yesterday to watch the latest episode in the soap opera of Paul Gascoigne's life. If so, they saw exactly why Italian clubs talk about paying such ludicrous sums for him — and exactly why he could end up a complete disaster.

That first goal was a thing of ferocious perfection; the sort of goal for which buyers would pay every penny of Spurs' debts, never mind the measly £8.5 million Lazio are talking about. The cross for the second goal was set up by the kind of astute, skilful and intelligent passing that one expects from Gascoigne.

Gascoigne had the kind of game that makes £8.5 million look a bargain. Oh, and he might have got himself sent off as well. The game went through a period of great intensity and came close to losing its temper.

Gascoigne surfs along on any emotional wave that happens to be rolling. His reaction to the scent of trouble was to have a kerfuffle with Davis. A more neurotic referee might have handled this messy incident far more histrionically.

What would Italian observers make of this? One cannot help but wonder how Gascoigne would handle the pressures of Italian football, in which cheating is performed with a certain degree of intelligence and forethought. Any reasonably thoughtful Italian full back would fancy his chances of getting Gascoigne sent off in any match he played.

And then one wonders how Gascoigne would handle the living-abroad part of the deal. Gascoigne is impressive in some areas of life, but we have yet to see him in the role of relaxed, urbane cosmopolite. All Englishmen are Europeans now. But is Château Gascoigne a wine that travels?

One fears Gascoigne would end up one of those hotel-room prisoners, a lonely monoglot dining off room service, mainlining Marmite, telephoning Newcastle and spending too much money on plane tickets.

He plays alongside a man who has demonstrated all the qualities needed to make a success of footballing abroad. Gary Lineker lived in Barcelona, socialised almost exclusively with Spaniards and spoke Spanish so well he was able to do a live football commentary on television. In success and in adversity, he made Barcelona work.

And he has still never been booked on the pitch. He embodies the maxim of the sly: don't get mad, get even. Lineker gets even by scoring goals, as he scored twice yesterday. You couldn't wish to meet an easier fellow.

He refused to make the fatal mistake of so many footballing exiles: to see a contract as something to be endured, a kind of highly remunerative prison sentence. Such an approach makes a player miserable in his daily life, and less than himself as a footballer.

One cannot help but feel that Gascoigne could go that way: a man born for the Marmite-and-telephones route. He does, after all, rather strike one as a person in whom the Englishman is in ascendant over the European.

There is no doubt that he has what it takes as a ballplayer. He adores big games. Yesterday, at the biggest game the season has given us so far, he was a joy to watch. There is no doubt that he could take the big-time Italian league by storm.

Certainly, Gascoigne could do brilliantly. But the trouble is, he will have to take Gazza along with him. I have every faith in the sublime talents of Gascoigne — but I fear for Gazza.

Men who broke the mould

Augusta

THE transformation over a period of 30 years has been a revelation. From a time when, in the recollection of Peter Ryde, former golf correspondent of these columns, "it was a dismal scene for the British, non-existent patriotically, but wonderful golf from the Americans", to the present day, with Britain threatening to win the hallowed Masters for the fourth consecutive year and a European for the seventh time in 11 years.

Augusta is only part of the changing scene. Ever since European players were embraced in the Ryder Cup in 1979, the traditional domination of the United States has been on the run. However

CROWD PULLER

reluctantly at first, American spectators now come gladly to Augusta to watch the best from Europe. "I hope Woosnam wins," a ticket-holder of many years said yesterday. "He doesn't waste time on the course, he is friendly with the crowd, he hits the ball a mile, and he really goes for it."

When Ryde, one of that distinguished quartet of British correspondents including Henry Longhurst, Leonard Crawley and Pat Ward Thomas, first covered this event, it was in response to the impact made upon a British golf audience by Arnold Palmer's victory in the Open. Palmer, never mind Augusta, could not be ignored.

"There was no one there at all for Britain in our early years," Ryde recalls. "We had to follow the Americans. Theirs was, simply, the best golf. I think it took Britain more time to recover following the war, which had knocked our golf sideways, and it was years before we could talk of any of our players in the same breath. In my opinion, the sense of order that Gerald Micklem brought into amateur golf made an important difference — and then, when Europeans became used to travelling, American golf seemed to become a bit blinkered."

The first to break into the Masters top 20 from Britain was the little heralded Peter Butler, who finished thirteenth in 1964 behind Palmer with a fine 69 in the third round. Butler returned regularly, finishing fourteenth in 1966 and 24th in 1967. When Tony Jacklin was briefly breaking the American mould in the late 60s, he could finish no better than 24th in 1968 and fourteenth in 1970, the year he won the US Open.

Then came Peter Oosterhuis. "When Oosterhuis came equal third in 1973, with Nicklaus and Goalby, behind Tommy Aaron, it was quite exceptional, a staggering event," Ryde says. "Britain had begun to mean something with Jacklin's performances. Prior to that, it was really embarrassing having to report on British players for local interest at home. The situation was so different from now it wasn't true."

The year after Oosterhuis, Maurice Bembridge came ninth, thanks to a blistering 64 in the final round, for a 283 total behind Gary Player's winning total of 278. The European who was really going to shake the Americans in their shoes was Severiano Ballesteros, who first came to Augusta notice when finishing eighteenth and twelfth respectively in 1978 and 1979.

Then came the decade of Sevvy. Twice first, second, twice third, fourth, fifth and seventh, and when he faltered, relatively, in 1988, there was Sandy Lyle to record the first British win. The Brits have been pulling the American tail ever since.

National Westminster Bank
Business Accounts
Interest Rates

National Westminster Bank announces the following interest rates, effective from 15 April 1991:

Business Reserve Account

Gross Interest per annum#	Balance	Gross Compounded Annual Rate*
	Instant Access - Minimum deposit/ withdrawal £100	
10.25%	£250,000 - £1,000,000	10.65%
10.125%	£100,000 - £249,999	10.52%
9.875%	£25,000 - £99,999	10.25%
9.25%	£2,000 - £24,999	9.58%
6.625%	£500 - £1,999	6.79%
Capital Reserve Account		
	14 days notice of withdrawal required - No minimum deposit/ withdrawal	
11.75%	£250,000 and above	12.28%
11.625%	£100,000 - £249,999	12.14%
11.50%	£25,000 - £99,999	12.01%
10.875%	£2,000 - £24,999	11.33%

Where appropriate, Basic Rate Tax will be deducted from interest credited or paid (which may be reclaimed by resident non-taxpayers). Subject to the required registration form. Interest will be paid gross.
*Gross Compounded Annual Rate is the true annual return on your savings if the interest payments are retained in the account.

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English swept away by American brawn

THE United States became the first world champions in women's rugby union after biding their time before pulling England apart by 19-6 in the second half of the World Cup final in Cardiff (Alix Ramsay writes).

In the first half, England had kept the Americans penned back in a tight and turgid show of muscle. The "locks from hell" and the "turbo props" could do little to counter a disciplined display from the England forwards. Facing the heavier American line-up, the English pack finally proved that organisation can counter brawn, scoring a penalty try from a well-worked five-metre scrum. Converted by Gill Burns, the English drew first blood to go 6-0 up.

But the United States, tackling with power and skill, were always going to come back. The turning point came after half an hour when a Francis fumble allowed the United States to press forward, winning a penalty. Harju converted and the Americans were given a new lease of life.

Within two minutes of the second half Godwin forced the ball over after England had failed to counter the American pressure. Now the States were on a roll and the English could do nothing to stop them.

Whitaker goes clear for title

GOTHENBURG — John Whitaker and Henderson Milton won the Volvo World Cup yesterday for the second year in succession amid the sport's most emotional scenes ever (Jenny MacArthur writes).

Their win, which came after achieving the only double clear round in yesterday's grand prix, was acclaimed with a deafening, foot-stamping roar from the 10,000-strong — predominantly teenage — crowd. In unprecedented scenes, they waved "Milton" banners and showered their hero with bunches of tulips. Ronnie Massarella, the British team manager, said he had seen nothing like it in his 25 years in the sport.

Whitaker, who won £30,000 yesterday bringing his total winnings on Mr and Mrs Tom Bradley's Milton to £900,000 in their eight-year career, had doubted the fairytale outcome. "I thought third place was too far behind to be able to win," he said.

But Roland Nilsson's technically demanding course played into his hands. In the first round, Nelson Pessoa, of Brazil, the eventual runner-up, and Whitaker had produced two of only five clear rounds to move into first and second places respectively. Otto Becker, the German, on Pamina, the overnight leaders, had four faults and dropped to third place.

In the second round, Whitaker, going second from last, had to be faultless to have a chance of overtaking Pessoa. The pair, in front of a spell-bound audience, jumped in spectacular Pegasus-like style to record a clear round.

Pessoa, aged 56, who jumped against the legendary Harry Llewellyn and Foxhunter at the start of his career, looked set to achieve his long-standing ambition. But it was not to be. Four faults at fence three dropped him to second place for the second time in seven years.

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